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COMMENT OF THE DAY

Budget Debate

AS usual, the Unofficials missed no pertinent point in their debate of the Estimates. Nor was wordage at a premium. Approximately 10,000 words were used to convey compliments, mild criticism and suggestions, and probably half of them would have been equally as effective, and certainly much easier for the general public to absorb through their morning newspapers. We believe the Unofficials could pay some attention to this in the future without endangering oratory or prejudicing their position as guardians of, and spokesmen for, the public conscience.

The subjects which properly qualified to come within the expression "debatable" were varied and interesting, and indicated that the Unofficials, while sympathetic with Government's overall policy as it affects the welfare and prosperity of the Colony, are by no means complaisant about specific matters of importance. This the people will note with satisfaction.

THE general relief expressed over the decision not to impose additional taxation to meet an estimated deficit is understandable, but it might also have been pointed out, without any affront, that extra taxation to bridge a gap which may or may not materialise, would have been a thoroughly unjust imposition.

On the general question of increased direct taxation the stand taken by the Hon. S. N. Chau and his colleagues receives full approval. Unless and until taxation on income is more widely applied, this form of revenue raising should be left undisturbed. It is out of the question to expect any reduction in this impost on personal earnings, but it is right that Government should realise that any increases in this direction cannot be tolerated. There are more equitable means of raising additional revenue—and much less painful.

SOME of the subjects mentioned by the Unofficials to which, we believe, Government could devote its immediate attention without straining its financial resources or compromising its high policies are (1) reopen negotiations on the military lands in Queen's Road Central; (2) provide Kowloon with the post office it so obviously needs (and has for so long been promised); (3) offer the necessary incentives to Hongkong-trained nurses to fill vacancies in our own hospitals and thus eliminate distressing wastage; (4) bring the length of home leave for expatriates in line with that adopted by the majority of commercial firms, thus effecting a valuable saving in time and money. These matters are well within the realm of undelayed action, and could, without sacrificing other considerations, be given attention during the coming fiscal year.

For their critical analysis of the Budget the Unofficials earn the public's appreciation. Several of its features which at first reading were obscure have been clarified. And none can deny that the Unofficials, as a body, have put forward a substantial number of constructive suggestions, several of which Government could adopt to the benefit of the Colony.

AUSTRIAN TREATY: NEW SOVIET MOVE

DR JULIUS RAAB

Head Of Govt. Invited To Moscow

Moscow, Mar. 24.

The Soviet government today invited the Austrian Chancellor, Julius Raab, to come to Moscow to negotiate an Austrian treaty.

The Foreign Minister, Mr V. M. Molotov, issued the invitation in an oral statement to the Austrian Ambassador, Mr Norbert Bischoff, after handing Mr Bischoff the Soviet Union's written reply to the Austrian note of March 14.

The contents both of the note and the reply were given to Western correspondents at a Foreign Ministry press conference convened at 10 p.m., local time.

The Austrian note of March 14 informed Russia that Austria was ready to join a four-power conference aimed at settlement of the Austrian treaty problem, but that any new conference must be preceded by clarification of the Soviet Union's desire for a guarantee against a new German anschluss with Austria.

The Soviet note took note of the Austrian government's desire for more information on "effective guarantees" against an anschluss or "encroachment from any direction."

It said the rearmament of Western Germany created a danger of "engulfing Austria" and made the need for taking measures against it "obvious."

"In connection with this, it is necessary to consider the terms of withdrawing the troops of the four powers from Austria as well as measures to be taken in the future in the event of a direct threat of an anschluss," said the Soviet note.

THE INVITATION

The Soviet note also agreed to give the Austrian treaty "individual consideration." The Soviet Foreign Ministry press chief, Mr Leonid Ilychev, quoted Mr Molotov as telling the Austrian Ambassador orally:

"The Soviet government knows through the statement by Chancellor Raab of his positive attitude toward coming to Moscow to conclude a State treaty.

"Taking into consideration this statement by Chancellor Raab and considering it desirable to establish personal contact between Austria and the Soviet Union, the Soviet government will welcome the arrival in Moscow of Chancellor Raab as well as other representatives which the Austrian government might desire to send for this purpose."

Mr Bishoff assured Mr Molotov he would immediately transmit the invitation to Vienna.—United Press.

ONE CONDITION

Vienna, Mar. 24.

Officials here close to the Chancellor, Herr Julius Raab, commented today that Herr Raab had said he would go to Moscow only "if he were sure he would not come back empty handed."

They were commenting on the Soviet invitation to Herr Raab, announced today, to visit Moscow.

When Soviet journalists asked recently if the Chancellor would go to Moscow, the official reply was "Herr Raab has not yet received an invitation."

Diplomatic circles here were debating today whether the Soviet Union might not offer in order to get Herr Raab to go to Moscow some such concession as a "very considerable reduction of allied, including Soviet, troops in Austria even before the signing of a treaty."

Western diplomats believed that Russia might make some such offer as for them it would mean only a withdrawal of their troops as far as the Hungarian border not more than 25 miles away, while for the British and Americans, it would mean a withdrawal of hundreds of miles.—Reuter.

Turmoil In Belgian Towns

Brussels, Mar. 24.

New street fights broke out tonight in Belgium's big church versus state battle and drastic measures were taken to prevent the wave of violence from sweeping through the capital.

All gatherings of more than five people in the Brussels area and the adjoining commune were forbidden. Police and gendarmes were ordered to prevent any concentration of traffic.

Roman Catholics say they are determined to stage a banned "march on Brussels" on Saturday.

While nearly a million Catholic school children and students "downed pens" today in a one-day protest strike the Socialist Liberal Government won by 113 votes to 80 a vote of confidence for its reform plan which cuts down the subsidies enjoyed by Catholic schools and has provoked the troubles.

Two weeks of nationwide demonstrations against the reforms appeared tonight to be approaching a climax.

Bitter fighting broke out at Mons and more than 6,000 students demonstrated in Louvain.—Reuter.

Evatt Supports China's Claim

Sydney, Mar. 24.

Australian Labour leader Dr Herbert Evatt, in a speech at Wollonggong near here today advocated the admission of Communist China and other Communist countries into the United Nations.

"The United Nations is not just a club for goodies," he said.

Dr Evatt, who is a former President of the United Nations General Assembly, claimed that the "United Nations should be open to all nations so that truth and falsehood could battle it out."—France-Presse.

Where Women Boast Of Murder

The biggest problem in Mau Mau land today is to be found in the 1,000 acre prison camp at Kamiti. There are some of the toughest and most detestable women in the world, once upon a time the murderers, the Mau Mau court judges, the oath administrators, committee members and the thugs' girl friends.

They are out of the fight now but are they repentant? Not a bit. They still boast of their diabolical crimes. And among them is an English Woman supervising the great work of rehabilitating these "hyenas" to make them fit and decent and people again.

John Redfern writes on Kenya's most challenging problem in tomorrow's China Mail — Hongkong's big week-end newspaper packed with a selection of the best features and pictures of the week.

Here are some of the highlights:

- *Titles for sale in England—Julian Symons tells the story of one of the century's biggest scandals.*
- *William Hickey, our bright and breezy Fleet Street columnist meets the Aga Khan.*
- *The strange story of the man who never died.*
- *Anne Scott-James tells her women readers: "I don't mind a bit of gossip but BEWARE THE VOICE OF THE VIPER".*

In addition, Jane Roberts writes on current films; there are local and overseas sports reviews, the latest Giles and a list of winners for tomorrow's meeting at the Valley . . . in the Saturday China Mail.

Dies, Aged 63

Mr Paul V. McNutt, former High Commissioner to the Philippines, whose death at the age of 63 is announced.

Churchill Listens To Lancashire's Complaints

London, Mar. 24.

Sir Winston Churchill and four other government ministers spent 80 minutes tonight listening to the Lancashire cotton industry's complaints against cheap imports from Asia.

After the meeting at No. 10 Downing Street, one of the 17 strong cotton delegation told Reuter they were "satisfied as far as it went."

They expected that some response to the proposals they had put to the government might be disclosed in the House of Commons next Tuesday, he added.

PM ASKS QUESTIONS

One of the delegation which was led by Sir Raymond Streat, Chairman of the Cotton Board, said the Chancellor of the Exchequer, Mr R. A. Butler, and the President of the Board of Trade, Mr Peter Thorneycroft, had taken the chief part in the discussions on the government side.

He said the Prime Minister had asked questions and had wound up the discussion.

An official statement issued after today's meeting said the Prime Minister was accompanied by the Chancellor of the Duchy of Lancaster, Lord Woolton, and the Minister of State at the Board of Trade, Mr Austin Low, as well as by Mr Butler and Mr Thorneycroft.

The statement said the spokesman for the delegation had put forward "unanimous recommendations" to deal with "the problem of grey cloth imports."

The statement concluded: "A general discussion followed about the problems of the cotton industry and in conclusion the Prime Minister assured the delegation that the government would give urgent and earnest consideration to the proposals."—Reuter.

Scathing Comment By Judge

Miami, Mar. 24.

Circuit Judge Vincent Giblin ruled today that charges of perversion made by John Astor's estranged third wife had "no credence whatsoever" but he held that she was entitled to separate maintenance of $75 a week from the portly millionaire, whose fortune is estimated at $4,750,000.

"I am not going to extract money from the defendant's pockets just because he is a wealthy man," said Mr Giblin.

The Judge held that Astor must pay his wife's attorney fees amounting to $12,500 and cover Court costs and any miscellaneous expenses of the litigation. He denied Astor's cross-suit for annulment or divorce, holding that he had no jurisdiction since he did not believe Astor was a legal resident of Florida.

Astor's first wife was awarded $500,000 and his second wife is now seeking the same amount in Court.

NO SYMPATHY

"I don't have the slightest bit of sympathy for (Mrs Astor)," said the judge. "She is a scheming, conniving, lying girl.

"To me she and her father are despicable people who have no principles, who were motivated in this case by greed for money. She married this man for money. I don't believe his faults justified the vicious and untrue attacks."

The Judge, who had sat stone-faced through the 90-minute summation by attorneys, said such cases were "the popular weapon of gold diggers."

In her suit last November 22, Mrs Astor said she was forced to leave her husband because of "something so intimate in nature" that she did not wish it published. The Judge took testimony from the couple at a closed hearing last week and said it was "the most filthy I've heard."

Neither Astor nor wife No 3 was present at today's session.—United Press.

PARIS TREATIES RATIFICATION

French Senate Postpones Voting

Paris, Mar. 24.

The French Council of the Republic (Senate) has postponed its vote on the Paris agreements until Saturday night or Sunday.

Origihally the Council was expected to vote early on Saturday but so many senators have put down their name to speak that the Council President, M. Gaston Monnerville, said today that the general debate would continue until Friday night. The discussion of amendments would not start until Saturday and would continue on Sunday if necessary, he added.

In consequence the Foreign Minister, M. Antoine Pinay, has let it be known that he was going to postpone his big speech in favour of immediate and unqualified ratification from today until tomorrow.

Forty senators were down to take part in the debate when the session opened this afternoon.

The general view in the Senate lobbies was that the government would win the day but that it would have to be watchful in case some unexpected incident aroused hostility to German rearmament to a point that would endanger a vote in favour of ratification.

A slight flurry was caused by the publication of a short letter written by General de Gaulle on March 2 to a Paris high school teacher, indicating his disapproval of unconditional ratification of the Paris agreements.

At the same time a spokesman of General de Gaulle said he had issued no instructions to the Gaullist senators and was leaving them entirely free to vote as they thought best. It was expected that a majority of the 47 Gaullist senators would refuse to vote for the agreements.

SOCIALISTS FOR

Earlier today a spokesman for the Socialist senators said a big majority of the 58 Socialist representatives in the Upper House would vote for ratification without amendment.

A spokesman for the Popular Republicans said his group of 26 senators was in favour of ratification but at the same time they would make up their minds whether to support any amendments or not after they had heard what the Foreign Minister and the Premier had to say.

It was presumed that with the new time schedule running into Sunday, for this debate, Premier Edgar Faure would speak some time on Saturday.

NEW SHOWDOWN

It is important for the government at all costs to get the Senate debate and vote concluded at the latest some time on Sunday because on Monday the government has to face a new showdown with the Poujade shopkeepers movement.

The National Assembly on Monday afternoon is due to start a debate on the tax reform bill which government experts have drawn up in a hurry this week, and which includes clauses aimed at satisfying the shopkeepers claims.

When the news reached the Senate this afternoon that West German President Heuss had signed the Paris treaties, it was felt that this finalisation of the ratification process in Germany would help the government for rapid and unconditional ratification.—Reuter.

Enthusiasm Dampened By Haggling

Tokyo, Mar. 24.

The impossibility of divorcing trade from politics in dealings with China has been forcibly brought home to the Japanese this week by the haggling in Hongkong over nationality description in applications for visas of 39 members of a private Chinese trade delegation who are on their way to Japan.

There is a distinct impression here that enthusiasm for the Chinese trade delegates' visit has waned both on the part of the government and on that of businessmen since the idea was mooted and opportunities for political exploitation become more clearly realised.

No doubt the more restrained approach owes something too to Mr Stassen's visit to Tokyo a fortnight ago and the warning made to the government that the Communists would try to use trade as an instrument of foreign policy.

The question which is bound to come up is the exchange of permanent trade delegations. As Chinese trade is state controlled, the setting up of a permanent Chinese delegation in Tokyo would be tantamount to authorising a government agency in Japan, and would again raise the question of recognition as well as the possibility of its misuse for subversive ends.—The Times News Service.

Geneva, Mar. 24.

A poliomyelitis vaccine may become available in the not too distant future, according to a 400-page study published here today by the World Health Organisation.—China Mail Special.

Eight Men Released On Bail, Rearrested

Lahore, Mar. 24.

Eight men accused of plotting to seize power by force, who had been released on bail by the Lahore High Court today, were rearrested tonight on the orders of the Pakistan Government.

The arrests were ordered shortly after the Governor-General, Mr Ghulam Mohammed flew to Lahore to deal personally with the critical situation which arose from the High Court order.

The men were detained under the Restriction and Detention Ordinance, 1944, on instructions from Karachi.

EX-CHIEF OF STAFF

The eight men are a former Chief of Staff of the Pakistan Army, a leftwing newspaper editor, and six senior military officers. They were convicted two years ago in a case known as the "Rawalpindi Conspiracy" of conspiring to overthrow the established government and set up a Communist state.

The men had been released by the Lahore High Court on the same grounds that last Monday won the government a Federal Court decision against the challenge of the Governor-General's dissolution of the Constituent Assembly last October 24.

Mr Justice Shabbir Ahmad cited Monday's ruling that no act of the Constituent Assembly was valid unless it received the assent of the Governor-General. The law under which the accused in the Rawalpindi case were tried was one of these acts.

The Federal Court ruling, invalidated more than 46 acts passed by the Assembly and created a storm of judicial and constitutional confusion.

CABINET SESSIONS

Meanwhile the Pakistan Cabinet has been in continuous session since Tuesday to evolve a formula whereby the Governor-General, by giving his assent, could invalidate retroactively all laws of the Assembly and still maintain the Federal Court ruling supporting the dissolution of the National Legislature.

The Cabinet met for eight hours today and had reached no decision by tonight. It will meet again tomorrow.

The Rawalpindi conspiracy plot was announced by the late Prime Minister of Pakistan, Liaquat Ali Khan, in January 1951, when 15 people were accused. Akbar Khan was named as ringleader of the plot.—Reuter.

Brussels, Mar. 24.

The Belgian Upper House is expected to ratify the Paris agreements on April 1, it was learned here today. The Lower House ratified them with an overwhelming majority last January.—Reuter.

SURPRISE OFFER BY RUSSIA

London, Mar. 25.

Russia announced tonight that it is willing to join the Western nations in reducing conventional armaments before banning atomic weapons.

The surprise reversal of Soviet policy was announced by the first Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister, Andrei Gromyko, in an interview over Radio Moscow.

Previously, the Soviets had insisted on linking an across-the-board reduction in conventional weapons and armed forces with a plan to ban atomic weapons.

Russia in the sudden switch appeared to abandon her earlier position on disarmament in favour of the "soft line" first announced by the late Andrei Vyshinsky at the United Nations last September.

The new Soviet position was apparently laid before the disarmament talks in London but was first announced by Radio Moscow.

It was viewed as encouraging by Western diplomats though it still left a wide gap between East and West on the question of just how the disarmament plan is to work.—United Press.

SUNDAY EXPRESS
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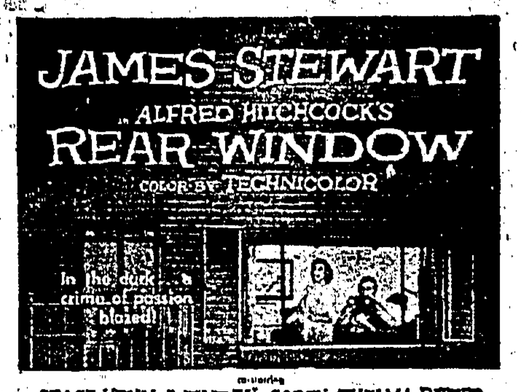

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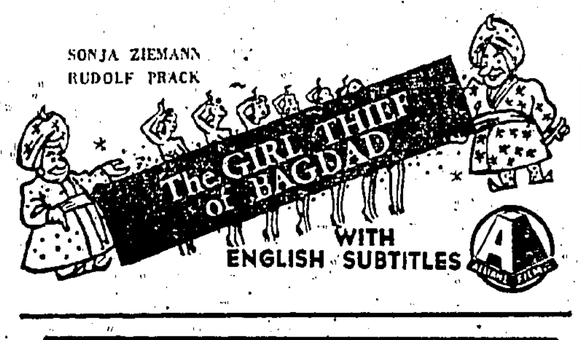

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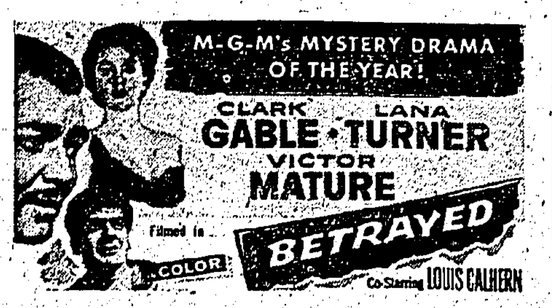

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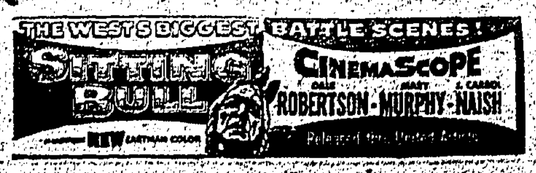
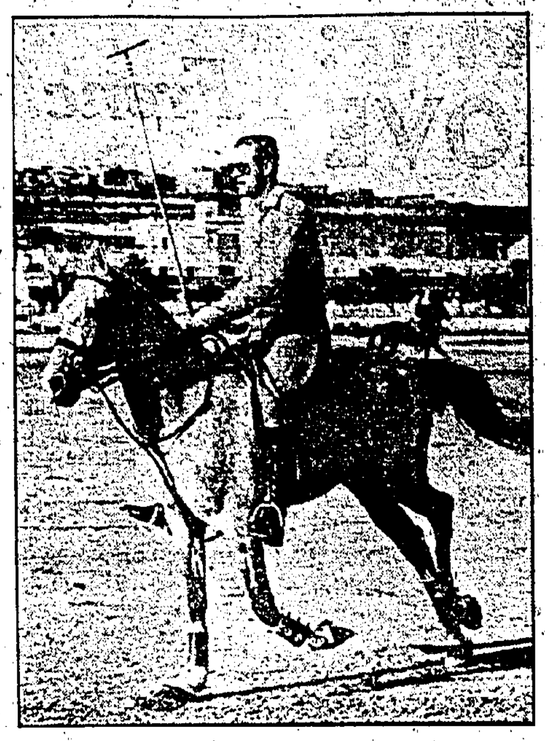


OFF-SHORE ISLANDS DISPUTE

The Duke Gets His Eye In



H.R.H. The Duke of Edinburgh practising on the polo ground at Marsa, Malta. H.R.H. landed at Malta from the Royal Yacht Britannia after taking part in the Combined Fleet exercises.—Central Press Photo.

Canada Will Not Support America Or Nationalists

GLOBAL WAR FEARED FROM INCIDENT

Ottawa, Mar. 24.

The Canadian External Affairs Minister, Mr Lester Pearson, told the House of Commons today Canada would not go to war in support of the United States conflict for possession of Chinese off-shore islands of Quemoy and the Matsus.

Nor, he added, would Canada become involved over any situation in support of the Chinese Nationalists.

He said, however, that it might happen that the United States actions arising out of either or both could trigger chain reaction that would be world-wide in which case the whole world, including Canada, would become involved.

PREVIOUS REMARKS

His remarks on the Far East came following a speech last week in Toronto in which, he said, it was inconceivable that Canada would stand aloof from the United States in major war which threatened the very existence of the United States.

The US State Secretary, Mr John Foster Dulles, who was here last week made the same point and there was the question of how far Canada would become involved on behalf of the United States over the Chinese coastal islands and Formosa.

His statement today was the formal Canadian answer — Canada won't act in concert with the United States over islands or Formosa, unless the repercussions set off a world war.

"What I fear most is that even limited intervention by the United States might have a chain reaction with unforeseen consequences which would cause the conflict to spread far beyond the locality where it began and even across oceans," he said.

"Canada was, therefore, deeply concerned. It seems to me that the first requirement at the moment is for both Chinese sides to refrain from using force, particularly against or from the coastal islands, and also against or from Formosa," he added.

GREATER CHANCE

He said he saw a greater chance for finding a solution by direct diplomatic negotiation rather than the use of the Security Council or even by calling a conference outside the United Nations.

Mr Pearson added, "Although efforts that have been made have not yet resulted in any solution, they have revealed indications on the Communist side of at least a desire to avoid all-out war.

"In the age of the hydrogen bomb, a readiness to negotiate may be inspired not by love but by fear. Whatever may be the cause of it, there is some reason to hope that all the parties concerned may at least be looking for a solution which they could dare to accept.

"If this is the case, then it would be a great folly to miss any opportunity for negotiation which may present itself—even a worse folly to destroy all such peaceful possibility by falling back again on the use of force.

"If a settlement could be reached over this most acute of all recent disputes, the free world might conceivably find itself in a position from which it could proceed, even if slowly, laboriously and fitfully, to establish a framework of peace and political stability in the Far East."

Mr Pearson discussed Canadian participation on the Indo-Chinese Truce Supervisory Commissions and said that Canada would remain represented only so long as it appeared that the commissions were doing a useful job.

INTERFERENCE DENIED

He said there was no ground for the statement of the former King of Cambodia, who resigned recently, that he had resigned as result of interference from the commissions.

He denied any interference. Canada would join in the supervision of free elections in Vietnam, he said, only if progress could be made in laying down conditions governing elections, he added.—France-Presse.

Serious Outbreak Of Witch Killings

Kampala, Uganda, Mar. 24.

The biggest outbreak of witch killings ever known among the primitive Suk tribe, who wander with their cattle in the inhospitable Karamoja country, in northeast Uganda, has resulted in more than 100 tribesmen being arrested.

Investigations by the police are still going on in this sparsely-populated area, and the latest count shows that eleven killings of witches have been confirmed out of a total of 22 reports received.

Of the eleven, three are believed to be the work of one man.

Witch-killings have broken out at intervals throughout the known history of the Suk tribe. They usually occur in one's and two's, when relatives of people who have died as a result of being "bewitched" avenge the family honour by killing the suspected "witch" in the traditional, ritual manner.

The victim is tied hand and foot, and forced to kneel on the ground and beaten with small, extremely thorny, twigs until death occurs, often after many hours.

Then the "avengers" kill the favourite bull of the "witch," and have a feast, which is accepted as the only way to lay the spirit completely.

Reports of the killings started filtering through to the local police headquarters at Moroto months ago, and gradually increased in number. To investigate them, police parties toured hundreds of miles of country, questioning the primitive tribesmen. In most cases, they had no difficulty in finding a lead since the avengers freely admitted what they had done.

GAOL FULL

The result is that Moroto gaol is now full of alleged witch-killers, while the hard-worked police are spending long hours preparing cases against them under the laws of Uganda.

To try the men, a special session of the High Court of Uganda has had to be arranged to take place at Moroto. The hearings are likely to last many weeks.—China Mail Special.

Red Rustlers Gaoled

Moscow, Mar. 24.

Two thieves who stole a cow from a collective farmer in Soviet Tadjikistan have been gaoled for 10 years in corrective labour camps.

This is a typical sentence under a Supreme Soviet edict, "Increasing Guard over Private Property of Citizens."

In announcing the punishment, the newspaper Tadjikinstan Communist reported that "all those present in the court-room warmly approved this just sentence."

In Soviet Kirghizia, three men were gaoled for 20 years after large-scale cattle "rustling." They were leaders of a band of robbers operating in territory close to the Chinese border for about two years. In that time they stole 60 head of cattle, more than 20 horses and other animals from State farms and collective farmers, as well as 25 buggeys and trucks.

While on their "rustling" exploits, the band killed two citizens. Apart from the leaders, other members of the band were gaoled for terms from one to 15 years' imprisonment.—China Mail Special.

SENATOR DIES

Charleston, Mar. 24.

John W. Davis, Democratic Presidential candidate in 1924, died in hospital here today. He was eighty-one.—Reuter.

JAPS NOT GUILTY OF EVADING CUSTOMS

London, Mar. 24.

Mr Eikichi Akata, European manager of the Osaka Line — Japan's second largest shipping company—and his assistant Mr Hideo Yamamoto, were acquitted here at Exbridge of attempting to evade paying customs duty on a camera.

A British customs officer told the court that last November he went to Mr Akita's flat with two other customs officers. One of the customs men said Mr Akita, when he arrived earlier at London airport, said he had nothing to declare.

He was asked if he had a camera; he produced one and said he had imported it a month before, saying he had lived in England and had been passed with the camera without having to pay duty.

DECLARATION

He was asked to sign a declaration to that effect but the customs officer said Mr Akita then changed his story and said the camera belonged to his assistant.

He added that Mr Yamamoto had told him that duty had been paid on the camera when it had been brought into Britain.

Mr Akita told him that his assistant had bought the camera in Hamburg, found it unsatisfactory and arranged for him to take it back to Hamburg to be exchanged, the officer said.

Mr Yamamoto later bore out this story the court was told.

Today, both Japanese denied attempting to evade payment of customs duty on the camera, and the magistrates dismissed the case.—China Mail Special.

London, Mar. 24.

Major - General Campbell Richard Hardy, Royal Marines commander in Normandy and Burma in World War II, and later against terrorists in Malaya, was today appointed their Commandant-General with the rank of Lieutenant-General from next August.—China Mail Special.

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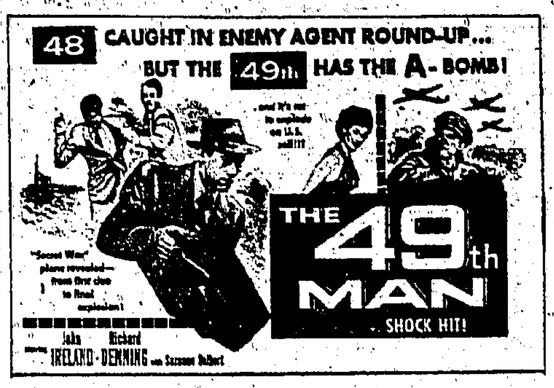

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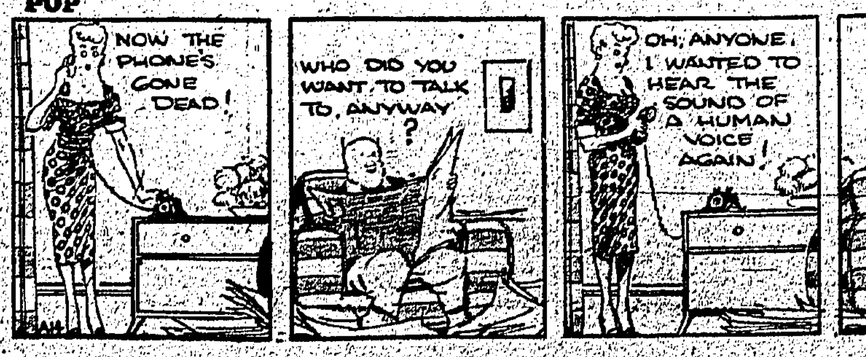


A new line

EAST-WEST CONFERENCES

Big Three Democratic Powers Should Hold Preliminary Meetings

KNOWLAND'S OPINION

Washington, Mar. 24.

Senator William Knowland, Republican minority leader, said today it might be well to hold a preliminary meeting of the Big Three Western Powers to iron out their policy differences before meeting Soviet delegations.

He was speaking to reporters on President Eisenhower's statement yesterday that he would be willing to make concessions for exploratory East-West talks at a level below heads of state.

Senator Knowland interpreted this as indicating the President was always willing to meet the Russians but wants some advance indication that such a meeting would be fruitful.

CANVASS CONGRESS

"We had better get some unity among the free world allies before we have any such conference," he said. "There also should be a canvass of Congressional sentiment about what American representatives would be prepared to discuss with the Russians."

Senator Knowland has cautioned against top-level Big Four talks on the ground that "appeasement minded allies" might agree to concessions for the Russians leaving the United States alone in opposition.

Senator Walter George, Democrat Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, also said talks should be held with British and French officials before any four-Power meeting.

"After the Paris agreements for arming Germany have been ratified, I hope work can be started on an agenda for a high-level conference," Senator George said. "I would hope that such an agenda could be developed by autumn."

Reports have been current here that United Nations diplomats thought a Big Four meeting might take place in San Francisco in June. In that month the United Nations will celebrate their tenth anniversary in San Francisco.

The Christian Science Monitor said yesterday in a dispatch from its UN correspondent that Mr Dag Hammarskjold, the United Nations Secretary-General, had sent out invitations to the Foreign Ministers of all 60 UN members to attend the celebrations.

WILL ACCEPT

"He has good reason to believe that a large number, including the Big Four, will accept," the Monitor said.

So far, however, there has been no intimation that the Foreign Ministers of Britain, France or the Soviet Union will in fact attend. United Nations officials, too, said yesterday that they knew nothing of reported plans for a Big Four meeting during the celebrations.

In an editorial, the Monitor said East-West talks promised to yield little or nothing, but fruitful or unfruitful they would probably strengthen Western ties.

"Act of faith or no act of faith by Moscow, the time seems almost at hand when the United States must show willingness to begin preparing for talks," it said.

Most of its allies have looked beyond the completion of America's aims in building up Western European military power. They look to a period of energetic and even daring endeavours to relax tensions that could tauten into an atomic war."

LESSEN CHANCE

Later today Senator Knowland said that a big-four conference might actually lessen "the chance for peace" if it broke up in major disagreements.

Mr Knowland told reporters that it was essential that the United States and her allies "see whether there is a reasonable meeting of minds" among themselves before undertaking any talks with the Soviet Union.

If some disagreements between the United States and Great Britain were not ironed out first, Senator Knowland said, the Soviets could "play one free nation off against the other."

Soon after the Senate met today Mr Knowland put into the record a listing of international agreements he said the Soviet Union had broken.

He said the record ought to be considered in weighing "the advantage of any such meeting at the summit without a demonstration of deeds not words" by Moscow.

Among the pacts he listed were some going back to 1920 and 1921, non-aggression treaties of the 1930's, the convenant of the League of Nations and agreements negotiated by Mr Maxim Litvinov when he was Foreign Minister.

GAP WIDENS

Reuter's Correspondent Paul Scott Rankine reported that the gap between President Eisenhower and the right wing of the Republican Party over proposed East-West talks has widened.

President Eisenhower's unusually favourable comments on Senator George's proposal, and his emphasis on the bipartisanship of his approach to the whole subject, have been interpreted here as an indication that his attitude is now nearer to that of the Democratic leader than to that of Senator Knowland.

It was noted in diplomatic circles that the President at his Press conference yesterday came as near as present circumstances will permit to taking the "initiative" that Senator George suggested he should take in launching a movement towards top level talks with the Russians.

The President said the question of initiative was not particularly important but there had "got to be new exploratory talks" on a comparatively low level. He stressed his willingness to have such talks followed by a conference at the "heads of government" level if there were a promise of success.

The speedy official reaction of the British Foreign Office, endorsing the President's proposals, suggested that his statement was regarded there as a positive call for East-West exploratory talks as soon as the Paris treaties on German rearmament are ratified.

The emphasis placed by the President on the necessity for exploratory talks with the Russians seems at variance with the report of the President's position given out by Senator Knowland the day before the President spoke.—Reuter.

ACTRESS OFF HER HAY

Berlin, Mar. 24.

A West Berlin "actress," now retired from the stage, refused to eat hay during her first days in private life.

She was "Lady Astor," a snow-white goat, which had had three appearances nightly on the stage of the Renaissance Theatre for the past five months in John Patrick's play "Teahouse of the August Moon."

Her attendants said they hoped she would soon give up behaving like a stage star.—China Mail Special.

RUSSIAN SAILORS UNLOAD TANKER

Reykjavik, Mar. 24.

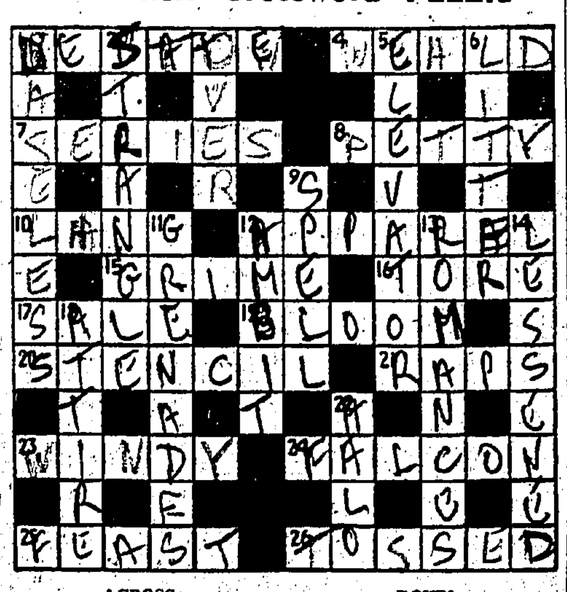
Russian sailors have been unloading oil from their American-built tanker here in the face of a nation-wide transport strike.

But Communists who are supporting the strike carefully refrained today from calling them "strike-breakers."

The 7,176-ton tanker Leningrad, christened in 1943 at Portland, Oregon, and sent to Russia under Lend-Lease, docked here just as the wage strike started last week.

Striking longshoremen refused to handle her cargo of fuel oil. So the Soviet sailors themselves unloaded the cargo.—United Press.

A British Crossword Puzzle



ACROSS

1 Confer (6).
4 District of Southern England (5).
7 Sequence (6).
8 Insignificant (5).
10 Kind of heather (4).
12 Garb (7).
15 Dirt (5).
16 Rent (4).
17 Auction (4).
19 Blossom (5).
20 Cut-out pattern (7).
21 Knocks (4).
23 Breezy (5).
24 Bird of prey (6).
25 Banquet (5).
26 Threw into the air (6).

DOWN

1 Unfounded (8).
2 Throttle (8).
3 Past (4).
5 Lift (8).
6 Mess (6).
9 Fascination (5).
11 Shells thrown by hand (8).
12 Precincts (5).
13 Love stories (8).
14 Diminished (8).
18 Clothing (6).
22 Luminous circle (4).

YESTERDAY'S CROSSWORD.—Across: 3 Ramparts, 8 Asleep, 9 Decorate, 11 Confused, 12 Bold, 13 Debar, 18 Dared, 19 Read, 22 Toreador, 24 Declined, 25 Seeped, 26 Entreats. **Down:** 1 Parch, 2 Flank, 3 Reduced, 4 Apes, 5 Prod, 6 Reason, 7 Steady, 10 Cedar, 14 Baron, 15 Recedes, 16 Cradle, 7 Mascot, 20 Adept, 21 Brads, 22 Time, 23 Rest.

Queen Meets Students

Indian student Mr M. S. Rana has a conversation he will never forget with the Queen at a party given by the Dominions Fellowship Trust in Goldsmiths Hall, London.—United Press.

Consul's Daughter Elopes: Joins Bedouin Tribe

Aleppo, Mar. 24.

The desert sands and hidden valleys of Syria held the secret today of two young lovers who defied an angry father and eloped to the nomadic life of the Bedouin in a true-life story as melodramatic as any Hollywood ever conceived for "sheikh" Rudolf Valentino.

The Arabs, true to their tradition of hospitality to any guest who comes among them, kept the secret of the whereabouts of an 18-year-old blonde beauty, Nicole Poche, and her Moslem husband, 23-year-old Rida Yamlikha.

They slipped through a ring of 200 Syrian gendarmes to escape the anger of Nicole's father.

£100,000 REFUSED

Her father, Mr Rudolph Poche, is Dutch Consul at Aleppoo. He offered £100,000 (Syrian) for the return of his daughter, but the Arabs, bound by their sacred duty of hospitality, refused even this fortune to give the couple up.

Mr Poche refused to talk to newspapermen, and was reported to be still undergiving.

The young couple, married by an Arab sheikh, told their story to a United Press correspondent in a Bedouin camp 100 miles along the rocky road out of Aleppo. No Westerners are believed to have seen the young lovers since then.

The Bedouin tent was luxuriously furnished with thick Persian carpets.

They fell in love three years ago when Nicole was at school here. She is a Roman Catholic and he is a Moslem. Her father opposed the match from the start, although former Judge Zaki Yamlikha approved his son's choice.

Nicole's father took her on a long trip to Turkey in the hope that she would forget Rida. Then last year he sent her to the St Joseph D'Apparition School in Beirut.

Her school-mates and her uncle, Dr Adolf Poche, said that she never mentioned the secret love.

But Judge Yamlikha said that "Nicole used to push my son to elope as the only way to make her father approve the marriage."

On the night of Feburary 13, Rida went to the school and Nicole slipped away with him. When other searchers failed to find them, the Army stepped in.

REFUGE

Meanwhile, Nicole and Rida had taken refuge with the Arab band led by Sheikh Fayeal Ennouar Haddilen.

The Sheikh said, "Arab tradition obliges me to protect them down to the life of the last man in the tribe."

Nicole told United Press correspondent Adnan Inayeh, "We are safe here, while awaiting my father's benediction which we hope will come very soon as a result of pressure from his friends."—United Press.

AMERICANS TAUGHT TO MAKE TEA

New York, Mar. 24.

America's great "take tea and see" campaign raised imports to £115,000,000 during 1954, ten per cent more than the previous year, 22 per cent more than 1952, according to the latest figures.

And the millions switching from coffee to tea are being treated to elaborate free instruction on how to brew it and drink it. The Tea Council of the United States of America are flashing a thrice-daily lesson on to the nation's television screens.

Purely concerned with the aesthetics of tea and shunning proprietary claims, the Council advises "The best way is the English way."

Croons a beaming housewife-teacher, "You must boil your water and pour it straight on to the tea in the pot; remember, there must be one teaspoonful for each cup to be served." And then three husky men are pictured drinking with satisfaction the brew made in the correct fashion.

USE MILK

"Milk is recommended, not lemon," adds the instructor.

Says the Tea Council: half of America's tea drinkers use loose tea, the other half uses tea bags. But it admits restaurants still do not know how to make tea; they mostly hand customers a cup of hot water with a tea bag in the saucer.

India provides 35 per cent of America's tea; Ceylon, 34 per cent; Indonesia, 13 per cent. The rest comes from Formosa, Japan and Africa.—London Express Service.

Hindu Influx Into India

New Delhi, Mar. 24.

The Prime Minister, Mr Jawaharlal Nehru, told Parliament today that the influx of Hindus from East Pakistan was steadily increasing and that the Indian Government was taking the matter up with Pakistan.

Mr Nehru said that the deteriorating economic conditions, insecurity and the feeling of uncertainty was the main reason for the influx.

He added that the influx was a matter of concern to India and a meeting at Ministerial level with Governor Mirza Iskandar would be held shortly.—United Press.

Student Created Revolutionary Study Cell

Kuala Lumpur, Mar. 24.

A LETTER from Communist China congratulating a former student of a Chinese school in Kuala Lumpur for the formation of a "revolutionary study cell" and urging him to go on with his "most important secret activity" was read out in the Supreme Court here today.

The letter, addressed to "Comrade Kon Yew" was an exhibit in a case against Chu Kon-yew, aged 18, who was charged with possessing a terrorist document and a book, "Chinese Youth," in his home in Loke Yew Road.

Chu's house was one of five raided by Special Branch Police on February 9 after they had accumulated information concerning the activities of several students and former students in Chinese schools in Selangor.

Chu admitted that the book "Chinese Youth" and the letter had been found in his house. The book was left behind by a friend who had gone to Communist China and later sent him the letter, he said.

Chu said that he had not read the book which was in a bundle with others. The Chief Justice, Sir Charles Mathews, convicted Chu. He postponed sentence to April 5.—Reuter.

NEW ANTI-TANK WEAPON

Ottawa, Mar. 24.

Canadian technicians have developed a new anti-tank weapon called the "Heller" which can be fired like a bazooka by infantrymen in either a kneeling or lying position and without recoil.

The weapon, now being studied by specialists of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation, is said to fire shells of such force and heat they can pierce any armour.—France-Presse.

Two Brothers Expelled

DISILLUSIONED AUSTRALIAN COMMUNIST

Hanover, Mar. 24.

Sydney-born Mr Bernard William Maher ended six weeks' personal and "illegal" investigation of Soviet controlled East Germany by declaring here tonight "I am no longer a Communist."

Mr Maher, 27, made the statement after relating to Pressmen how his "fact-finding" tour in East Germany turned into six weeks of Russian interrogation, a month in a basement cell in Berlin, and final expulsion by the Soviet authorities.

Mr Maher turned up at the Helmstedt border town from East Germany yesterday after an absence dating from Feburary 14 and announced to the West German authorities that he had been expelled from the East Zone.

BROTHER TOO

Today his brother, 31-year-old Mr John Gerald Maher, also appeared at Helmstedt to similarly announce his expulsion by the Soviets. Mr John Maher had entered the East Zone "illegally" with his brother after travelling by rail from London, through Holland and West Germany, into West and thence East Berlin.

The Maher brothers were born in Sydney, Australia, and were brought to England as children by their parents in 1936.

Both brothers now live in Castle Donington, Derbyshire, England. Bernard is travelling on an Australian passport he obtained from Australia House, London, last February, and John is travelling on a British passport.

John is expected to join his brother in Hanover later tonight. They will stay in a city hotel until tomorrow when they board a train due to arrive in London on Saturday.

Telling the United Press today of the events leading up to his expulsion from the Soviet Zone, Bernard said:

"In England I was a member of the Manchester Communist Party but I wanted a chance to see for myself what the Communist State was like."

"Instead of getting a welcome in East Germany I was asked to do a job for the Russians when I returned to England," Bernard said.

"When I refused I was held and interrogated," he continued.

NOT A MEMBER

Bernard said that his brother John was not a member of the Communist Party but had gone along on the East German trip "to help make up his mind."

"He did and from now on although we will still belong to the C.P. it will be the Conservative Party, not the Communist Party," Bernard said.

He added that "for the first few days, we were treated fine."

Then he described how the treatment given to him and his brother worsened after the Communists discovered that "we were not turncoats but political idealists."

"We were interrogated by two Russian and one East German intelligence officers on the East Zone side of the Helmstedt border crossing," Bernard said.

"They asked us if we were interested in attending a Communist school for six weeks and then would we do a little job or carry out a little task for them in the West. When I said no, their attitude changed.

"Suddenly they decided to move us from Helmstedt and we were taken to Berlin. They kept the windows of our car covered so that we could not see where we were going, but we figured we were in a house on the outskirts of East Berlin," he said.

IN BASEMENT

"We were put in a basement cell with no blankets, no light and for long periods, no food. I am five feet seven inches tall but I could not stand in that cell without bending my head. The walls were damp and there was water on the floor. We were subjected to daily interrogations," Bernard said.

"They were very interested in my military career. I served in Germany with the Royal Engineers as a member of a demolition squad blowing up war buillings in 1947 and 1948. The Russians were very interested in that.

"All the time they would repeat their offer of six weeks' schooling for that little task, but each time I turned them down," he said.

For the last four days of our confinement in that cell we got absolutely nothing to eat. We managed to break out of the place by smashing a window with a brick but they picked us up again in short order. Finally, we were taken away in another car, let out near the border at Helmstedt, and told to keep walking," the young Australian said.—United Press.

STRUGGLE IN MALAYA

London Welcomes N.Z. Decision

London, Mar. 24.

New Zealand's intention to put forces into the anti-Communist struggle in Malaya was warmly welcomed in British diplomatic quarters here today.

Diplomatic observers said that the defence statement of Mr Sidney Holland, New Zealand Prime Minister, was "firm and comprehensive." It did not come as a surprise because for Australia and New Zealand the centre of gravity in defence has of late been shifting eastward from the Middle East, they added.

Mr Holland had defence talks with the British Government during the Commonwealth Prime Ministers' conference here last February. He was assisted at the defence discussions by Major General William Intry, Chief of New Zealand's General Staff.

Observers noted that Mr Holland's new defence policy follows his visit to Singapore after the Commonwealth Conference here and the conference in February at Bangkok of the Foreign Ministers of the South-east Asia Treaty Organisation.

SINGAPORE CONSULTATIONS

Mr Thomas Macdonald, New Zealand Foreign Minister, attended the Bangkok talks and later had consultations in Singapore with Mr Holland.

During the one week Commonwealth conference, many of the Prime Ministers held separate regional defence discussions. They then reviewed defence problems of the Middle East in the light of recent developments and reached agreement on the basis for a new approach to defence planning in this area. But details of the "new approach" were not disclosed.

The Prime Ministers concerned also discussed Southeast Asia defence.

The security of Malaya was discussed and it was regarded by Britain, Australia and New Zealand as of "vital importance."

They considered that, in future, joint planning among the three governments and discussions with other participants in the Southeast Asia Treaty Organisation would go forward more effectively.—Reuter.

Insp Bowler Has Another Escape

Nairobi, Mar. 24.

KENYA Police Inspector Ronald Bowler of Belvedere, Kenya, who in the last year has narrowly escaped death from shooting and drowning, survived another "near thing" last night when Mau Mau gunmen fired at him from point blank range.

Inspector Bowler was shot at by a terrorist in February, 1954. The bullet ricocheted off his cap badge and tore a hole through his cap.

Four months later he plunged into the flooded Nairobi river to save three people from an overturned boat. Two African constables were drowned on this occasion.

Last night Inspector Bowler stopped his police truck before an African housing estate to question three men. They opened fire on him and fled.

A bullet smashed into the truck where Inspector Bowler was sitting but he was unhurt.—China Mail Special.

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"Since Churchill's speech Vera thinks every body with a suitcase is carrying plutonium."

Jobless But They're Happy

By Bernard Ronald

WHAT do Italians do when they cannot find a job? The answer is that many thousands go to a huge barracks-like building in Milan which could well be called "New Life House".

Now, the unemployed with smiles on their faces and adventure in their hearts step inside. They have come from all parts of the peninsula, bronzed bricklayers from Naples, bright-eyed, buxom beauties from Bolzano, carpenters from Capri and peasant girls from Parma.

Their hopes are high even if their funds are low. All of them are resolved to put many miles between themselves and the poverty they knew at home. Some will earn respectable fortunes, others will find romance as well as a well-paid job.

Once they step through the huge green-painted door, their hearts beat double time and their horizons become limitless. I went along to see these modern adventurers. It struck me that they hadn't a care in the world.

NO OPPORTUNITY

"New Life House" is Milan's Emigration Centre. Italians have lost their empire, but not their desire to emigrate. They look upon emigration as a double-barrelled blessing that improves the prospects for those who go and makes job-finding easier for those who remain behind.

Italy is sunny and colourful, full of fine wines and gay music. But it is not a country full of opportunity; for boys can leave school at 11 to be thrown on a labour market already saddled with 2,000,000 unemployed.

An emigration official told me: "The Italian Government is spending over £600,000,000 on the construction of roads, houses, bridges and State factories. The aim is to provide work for as many people as possible, particularly in the depressed areas where industry is as yet undeveloped.

It helps, but it cannot hope to solve the unemployment problem.

Italy's population is growing too fast. The birth rate is 18 to 19 per 1,000 inhabitants, about double the death rate. Today Italy has 47,000,000 people. By 1960 they will have grown to 50,000,000 and will probably reach 53,000,000 by 1970. Large-scale emigration is the only solution.

TO AUSTRALIA

I asked which was the country holding out the brightest hopes for Italian emigration today. The answer is Australia, where thousands of Italians are finding work as bricklayers, joiners, factory hands, domestics in private homes.

"The girls are mostly from Trieste. We have received shoals of applications from would-be domestics but we are sending only young unmarried women. Canada is not taking as many Italians as it had done in the past but we hope a new agreement can be reached which will speed up the flow of emigrants."

Other good outlets for Italian surplus manpower are Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Paraguay, Uruguay and Venezuela.

CENTENNIAL OF A GREAT WORLD MOVEMENT

A SHOP ASSISTANT FOUNDED THE YMCA

By J. W. Taylor

FROM August 12 to 23 next 10,000 delegates of YMCAs in 80 countries of the world, representing a total membership of 4½ million men and boys of all races, classes and Christian creeds, will meet in Paris for six simultaneous conferences, camps and numerous other gatherings to celebrate the centennial of the World's Alliance of Young Men's Christian Associations, the oldest international youth movement in the world.

The delegates will deliberate in the famous Sorbonne, in the Cite Universitaire, in the Palais des Sports — the Harringay of Paris — and other centres, all in strange contrast to the first international conference of YMCAs in a Paris Wesleyan chapel in Rue Royale 100 years before. Then 97 young YMCA leaders from eight European countries and America, moving to the wider conception of a universal confederation, adopted the famous "Paris Basis" declaration of purpose, which became the foundation of the Alliance's work and the charter upon which this world movement is united.

SURVIVAL

THIS chapel gathering was to be the first in a chain of 21 world conferences in Britain, Europe, Asia and America, and next August's assembly will include the 22nd world conference. Its proceedings will terminate with a mammoth centennial rally on August 22, when adherence to the "Paris Basis" will be reaffirmed.

All this developed with mushroom growth and oak-like survival from the hostel bedroom prayer and Bible study meetings of 12 young draper's assistants in their employer's warehouse premises in St Paul's Churchyard, London, started 111 years ago by the young £40-a-year draper's assistant, George Williams, founder of the Young Men's Christian Association.

At 19, this son of a Dulverton, Somerset, farmer in 1841 joined 140 other shop assistants living two-in-a-bed, three beds per room at Hitchcock and Rogers' drapery in Ludgate Hill. Many of them, like most of London's other 150,000 shop assistants, were a loose-living, godless crowd. Their was a 15-hour-day, with no half holiday and only 10 minutes' break for each meal in a dismal basement-cum-sitting room.

In a city then notorious for its lawlessness, vice, drunkenness and poverty, these youths spent their meagre earnings in odd leisure hours in the numerous gin palaces, beer shops, bawdy houses, taverns and coffee shops, at any of which one could get drunk for twopence.

Ever since that night in 1837 when he was "converted" as he sat alone in the Bridgewater Congregational Chapel, Somerset, George Williams demonstrated strong religious convictions. He possessed, too, great business and organising ability and tremendous physical energy, which were to sustain him for over 60 years as a vital force in the religious, business and social life of the City. This was fittingly crowned with a knighthood and the Freedom of the City in 1894, when the 13th world conference of the YMCA was held in London to celebrate the jubilee of Williams' founding of the movement.

Sir George Williams, pictured as a young man who had already founded the YMCA and was extending it throughout Britain and to many countries abroad.

PHILANTHROPY

IN the meantime, at 32, Williams had married his employer's daughter, who bore him five sons; he had been made a partner in the business, and eventually became a comparatively rich man. He gave away a large proportion of his wealth to many religious and philanthropic causes.

As a youth, Williams had found London a fantastic medley of wealth and refinement, poverty and piety, vice and degradation—all flaunted and obvious amidst the Industrial Revolution that was proceeding apace, with its beneficial influences and baneful results.

People said it was impossible for young men of those days to be Christians, but young Williams did not agree. He set about evangelising his 140 godless colleagues. Gradually he persuaded some to attend his hostel bedroom religious meetings, helped by his roommate, Christopher Smith.

Success led Williams adventurously on to evangelising other London draperies, until on the night of June 6, 1844, he and eleven other young shop assistants working in London, all under 25 and from the Provinces, met in his St Paul's Churchyard drapery warehouse hostel bedroom, and under his leadership and guidance the YMCA movement was founded. It was called by them for the time being the Drapers' Evangelical Association. A collection for immediate expenses made 13s. 6d. Significantly, these founder - members comprised three Anglicans, three Congregationalists, three Baptists and three Methodists, emphasising the inter-denominational character of the movement.

GROWTH

AT their fifth meeting at St Martin's Coffee House, Ludgate Hill, these pioneers chose the title of Young Men's Christian Association for their new movement. Under George Williams' guiding genius, it spread in London and then to the Provinces. From being a purely religious organisation, it extended its ministrations to the physical, mental and spiritual needs of young men—body, mind, spirit, as exemplified in the YMCA's famous red triangle badge.

Soon YMCAs were formed in America, South Africa and New Zealand and finally extended to many other lands. The phenominal first 10 years' growth of the London Association—the parent Association of the movement—caused removals to a succession of new premises, including the famous Exeter Hall, on the present site of the Strand Palace Hotel.

Meanwhile, the work was extended to meet the needs of boys. General Baden Powell in 1908 introduced his scheme of 'Scouting for Boys" under the auspices of the YMCA, and in many British Scout organisations today, No. 1. Scout Troop is the YMCA Troop.

The YMCA's work for troops was pioneered by the Geneva Association in 1866 for the occupying Forces. The German Association did it during the Austro and Franco-Prussian Wars, whilst the British Association served troops in many campaigns, including the Boer War, the South African War, in World Wars One and Two, and at Territorial camps all over Britain from the days in 1890 of the old Local Volunteers Occupying.

AMALGAMATION

OTHER troops stationed all over the world are still being served in many ways by the YMCA. The service of the United States YMCA to soldiers in the American Civil War was the first work of its kind to be organised on a national basis. It used the first mobile canteen ever, a horse-drawn contraption with a huge boiler.

In 1895, the three Associations working in the centre of London—Exeter Hall, Aldersgate Street and Cornhill—were amalgamated into the London Central YMCA. Its present commodious Tottenham Court Road premises, with indoor swimming pool, modern residential hostel, gymnasium and restaurant, were built and equipped, along with the 20-acre sports ground at Mottingham, at a cost of £300,000 in 1911, when King George V became the Patron of the National Council of YMCAs.

Some 29 years earlier, George Williams had become the first President of the newly-formed English Council, and four years later succeeded the Earl of Shaftesbury as President of the London Association.

London Central, parent Association of the movement and the oldest YMCA in the world, now has a membership of over 3,500 representing 52 different nationalities.

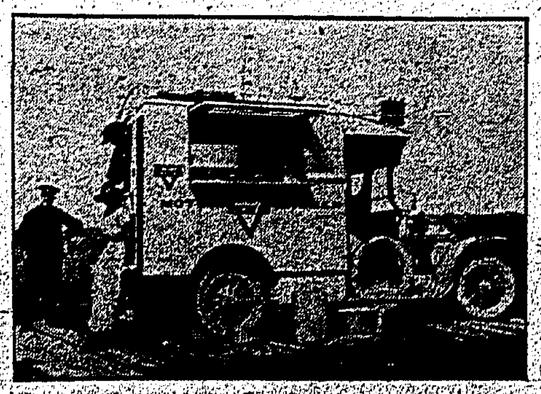
Sir George Williams lived to see the 1904 diamond jubilee of the YMCA's foundation some three years after celebrating his golden wedding. The next year the Association's 16th world's conference was held in Paris, which Sir George insisted on attending, despite his advanced years.

TESTAMENT

HE was distressingly feeble, and his speech to the 1,000 delegates of 25 nationalists was in the nature of a last will and testament to the movement he founded. In his 61 years of ceaseless toil on its behalf, he had seen it grow into 676 Associations of 45 nationalities, with a membership then reaching 707,667 and owning property then valued at nearly £7 millions.

Soon afterwards Sir George Williams was taken from the Paris conference to Torquay a very sick man. In November of that conference year he died at the age of 84, and almost his last words were: "Beloved young men."

He was buried in St Paul's, close to Nelson's tomb, and the whole of London mourned.



One of the first YMCA mobile canteens used in World War One, pictured on a muddy site behind the lines "somewhere in France."

TAIKOO SUGAR
HALF CUBES
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ASIAN SPORTS REVIEW

FILIPINO RECORD FOR THE 400 METRES RUN BROUGHT DOWN TO 48.6 SECONDS

Pablo Somblingo, of the University of the Visayas, was the star performer in the men's section of the Philippines National Track and Field Championships held at Rizal Memorial Stadium in Manila on March 12 and 13.

Somblingo, also known as Sublingo, broke Jose Ravello's national record of 49.3 seconds in the 400 Metres run, negotiating one circuit of the Rizal Memorial track in 48.6 seconds. This was the second fastest 400 Metres run in Asia this year, ranking behind Joginder Singh's 48.0 seconds at the Indian Championships in February.

The other star of the meeting was Cebu Institute of Technology's Francisca Sanopal who broke one national record and equalled another. Francisca improved the national record in the Javelin Throw to 129 feet 7½ inches, but an even greater achievement was her victory in the 80 Metres Hurdles where she beat an all-star field that included Japan's Atsuko Nambu, second, Britain's Marie Bridgeford, third, and defending champion Manolita Cinco of Mindanao, fourth. Francisca's time of 12.0 seconds equalled Manolita Cinco's national record.

Times and performances otherwise were surprisingly poor. Japan's Akira Kiyofuji won both sprints in 11.0 and 23.2 seconds from Genaro Cabrera and Eusebio Ensong respectively.

Another Japanese, Yoshitaka Muroya, won the 800 Metres run in 1 minute 59.5 seconds. Other winners in the runs were Norman Sison of Silliman University, the 1,500 Metres in 4 minutes 17.5 seconds and the 10,000 Metres in 38 minutes 31.9 seconds, and Leoncio Zabala, of the Bureau of Public Schools, the 3,000 Metres Steeplechase in 11 minutes 9.5 seconds.

Iluminado Macahis of Silliman University won the 110 Metres High Hurdles in 15.6 seconds and Eriberto Maldri of the University of Santo Tomas the 400 Metres Hurdles in a fast 54.4 seconds.

Field events performances were a trifle better. Alejo Depeno won the High Jump at 6 feet 2 inches, Bernabe Lucero the Pole Vault at 11 feet 11⅞ inches, Hernando Caunte the Long Jump at 21 feet 5¾ inches and the Hop, Step and Jump at 46 feet 4⅜ inches. Artemio Cortes the Shot Put at 36 feet 6⅞ inches, Anicleto Acapulco the Discus Throw at 122 feet 1 inch and Doroteo Amarillado the Javelin Throw with a good 181 feet 9 inches.

Looking over these performances, even little Hongkong can take pride that it has better performers in the 100,200,800,1,500 and 10,000 Metres, Long Jump, Shot Put, Discus Throw and Javelin Throw. And the current season is one of Hongkong's weakest of the past few years in the throwing events.

FILIPINAS BETTER

On the girls' side—all Filipina athletes are schoolgirls or university students — records fell right and left. Salome Banate of Cebu Tech became the first Filipina to clear 5 feet in the High Jump, displacing Hongkong's Jennifer Hart as the Southeast Asian record-holder in this event.

In the 100 Metres, Japan's Atsuko Nambu, the Asian Champion and Midori Tanaka finished one-two against Inocencia Solis and Francisca Sanopal. Atsuko won in 12.7 seconds. In the 200 Metres, Japan's Midori Tanaka won in 27.4 seconds from Inocencia Solis and the Public Schools Champion, Irene Penuela.

Salome Banate won the Long Jump at 16 feet ⅛ inch and A. Tucson the Shot Put at 31 feet 7¾ inches.

Several good marks were achieved in the Bureau of Public Schools Championships at Iloilo City earlier in the month. These included 22 feet 8 inches in the Long Jump and 46 feet 6¾ inches in the Hop, Step and Jump by Hernando Caunte, 27.0 seconds in a women's 200 Metres heat by Roberta Anore, 33 feet 8⅛ inches in the women's Shot Put by Juanita Grupe, 11 feet 8 inches in the Pole Vault by E. Versoza 4 feet 11-1/16 inches in the girls' High Jump by Lolia Lagrosas, 12.4 seconds in the girls' 80 Metres Hurdles by Lolita Lagrosas, 15.6 seconds in the 110 Metres Hurdles by Jorge Damicog, 38 feet 10¾ inches in the Shot Put (16 lbs.) by Artemio Cortes, 27.2 seconds in the girls' 200 Metres final by Irene Penuela (with Milagros Camas second and Roberta Anore third), 22.5 seconds in the 200 Metres by David Remata, 16 feet 10¼ inches for a new Philippines record in the women's Long Jump by Irene Penuela and 181 feet 9¾ inches in the Javelin Throw by Doroteo Amarillado.

SWIMMING FINALS

Star performer of the home contingent in the Philippines National Swimming Championships which concluded in Manila on March 13 was Parsons Nabiula who set a national record of 1 minute 13.5 seconds in the 100 Metres Breast Stroke. Nabiula was the only Filipino swimmer to win an event in which visiting Japanese mermen competed.

Japan's A. Tani won the 100 Metres Free Style in 58.0 seconds from Singapore's Neo Chweekok and the 200 Metres Free Style in 2 minutes 15.4 seconds, also from the Singapore swimmer. The latter performance was a Philippines all-comers' record, quite an achievement for a pool in which some of the world's fastest swimmers have competed.

Other winners were Y. Shoji of Japan, 400 Metres Free Style in 4 minutes 49.5 seconds, H. Gumazuru of Japan, 200 Metres Breast Stroke in 2 minutes 41.1 seconds, Pedro Cayco the 100 Metres Back Stroke in 1 minute 10.8 seconds.

AMATEUR BOXING CLUB FORMED

With boxing beginning to gain some popularity among the sporting fraternity of this Colony, the first boxing club in Hongkong has been formed.

The Amateur Boxing Club of Hongkong is being formed for the encouragement and promotion of boxing in the Colony. Its object will be to teach the art of boxing to the interested youngsters in Hongkong, and to foster good spirit and sportsmanship, and to promote boxing tournaments.

It has long been the opinion of thoughtful boxing enthusiasts that, while the senior and experienced boxers in the Colony have some opportunities for training and performance, the same is unfortunately not true for the younger and less experienced young man. It is essential for the coming young sportsmen that a lot more facilities shall be given for their training and equipment, in order that they should have real encouragement and enthusiasm for the sport, and bring Hongkong a good name and success in this line.

It is for this reason that the Athletic Boxing Club and the provisional Working Committee have been organised with the following aim:

The Club will aim to foster the good spirit between the Chinese and non Chinese sportsmen hence the Club's Membership will consist of 50% Chinese and 50% non Chinese who each year will elect their chairman and secretary in an alternative way so that when the chairman is Chinese, the secretary will be non Chinese.

This Club is a very ambitious one. Their main goal at the moment is that some of the Club's boxers should represent Hongkong at the next Olympic Games in Australia in 1956.

Liverpool Spring Cup Probables

London, Mar. 25.

Fourteen probables and jockeys for the Liverpool Spring Cup to be run over one mile, two furlongs, 170 yards at Liverpool today, Friday, are:

Durante (Doug Smith), Henri de Navarre (A. Orms), Lodge (C. Gaston), Wise Folly (W. Snaith), Bob Junior (E. Hide), Jacob (A. Russell), Star Odoon (N. McIntosh), Alpenhorn (Arthur Breasley), Tintinnabulum (S. Clayton), Master Rocky (R. North), Organloft (Edgar Britt), Blow Wind (D. Ryan), Babbanio (no jockey), Red Carpet (no jockey)?

Against skin disease and itching
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DON'T WASTE WATER

Singapore Woman Wants To Wrestle In Japan

Singapore, Mar. 24.

Singapore's No. 1 woman wrestler, Raja Laila, flexed her muscles and told the press, "I want to go to Japan."

Laila, a 170-pound bone-crusher, read an advertisement from Japan offering high salaries for "confident" girls, over five feet tall, and weighing more than 110 pounds, to take part in wrestling matches.

Laila has been inactive for three years, ever since the Singapore police banned women wrestlers.

"But I am confident," she said, "this is the chance of a lifetime to show our counterparts in Japan what Singapore can do in the bone-crushing business."

Laila is getting into training by wrestling with her husband, Mohamed Kunju, a well-known Colony wrestler. She said that she and her husband were trying to save the money for the trip to Japan.—France-Presse.

South American Soccer Tourney

Santiago, Mar. 24.

Uruguay beat Ecuador by five goals to one in the South American Football Championship here last night. The score at half-time was 1-1.

Peru and Paraguay drew 1-1 in the same competition here after Peru had led 1-0 at the interval.—Reuter.

INTERNATIONAL TENNIS

Britain's Mortimer Beats Eman

Alexandria, Egypt, Mar. 24.

The semi-finals of the women's singles of the International Tennis Tournament here today ensured an Anglo-Italian final.

In the first semi-final Miss Angela Mortimer (Britain) beat Miss Moon Eman (Egypt) 6-3, 7-5, and in the following match Miss Sylvana Lazzarino (Italy) beat Miss Wendy Middleton (Australia) 6-1, the Australian girl retiring after the first set.—United Press.

RUSSIAN CYCLISTS

Russian Cyclists have turned down an invitation to compete in the 1,000 miles amateur circuit of Britain in July. The reason for their non acceptance, say the Russians, is that cycling events are being held in Moscow in July.

YORK CITY IN THE SEMI-FINAL

For the second year running a Third Division team goes into the semi-final of the FA Cup. At Nottingham, York City won by the only goal of the match, scored by Bottom, against Notts County.

Photo shows Notts County goalkeeper Bradley getting his fist to the ball in spite of Bottom's effort to prevent him.

Eddie Choong And Wong Probable Finalists In All-England Championship

London, Mar. 24.

The singles events of the All-England Badminton Championships this afternoon reached the semi-final stages.

In the men's singles, two Malayans, one Swede and one Dane have reached the last four and will meet in tomorrow's penultimate round as follows: Eddie Choong (Malaya) versus Finn Kobbero (Denmark) and Bertil Glans (Sweden) versus Wong Peng-soon (Malaya).

Of the four, Eddie Choong, the favourite, had the easiest quarter final match this afternoon, eliminating the only remaining Englishman Alec Broadhurst, by 15/5, 15/3.

The most hard-earned win was that of Glans who created a surprise in beating Malayan Johnny Heah after a three set struggle of 15/9, 9/15 and 15/0.

Wong Peng-soon, the second seed, did not have matters all his own way against the Dane J. Hammergaard Hasen, having to fight back from 8/12 in the first set before finding his true form to win 17/14, 15/1.

In the other fourth round match, Kobbero eliminated Eddie Choong's brother, David, with a straight 15/12, 15/8 victory.

Eddie Choong and Wong Peng-soon, the Malayan badminton players and probable finalists of the men's singles of the All-England badminton championships now taking place at the Empress Hall, London, appeared on British television tonight in the weekly programme, "Sportsview".

Wong Peng-soon said he was glad to be back in England after an absence of three years and to meet his old friends again.

The players discussed the championships, but Eddie Choong, holder of the men's singles title, would not be drawn into a forecast of the possible result of a final between the two of them. — France-Presse.

It should be an interesting match between Glans and Wong. Wong was extended for the first time today in the tournament by the seeded Dane Hammergaard Hansen when the Dane held him to 17-4 in the first game.

WOMEN'S SINGLES

The Women's Singles also went to pattern today with the four seeded players reaching the semi-finals.

Miss Judy Devlin, United States, the 19-year-old holder, has dropped only six points in reaching the last four where she meets Miss Marjorie Shedd the 1954 Candian Champion.

In the other semi-final, Miss Margaret Varner, 26-year-old former Rodeo star from El Paso, Texas, plays Miss Iris Cooley of England.

Eddie Choong, joint number one seed and favourite, reached the Men's Singles semi-finals by overwhelming Broadhurst. He swept to victory in 17 minutes in a one-sided encounter which held little interest in view of a tense battle on an adjoining court between Wong Peng-soon and Hammergaard Hansen, Denmark.

Choong outclassed Broadhurst in every phase of the game. He dictated what few rallies there were by forcing Broadhurst back to the baseline and then scoring innumerable points with delicate drop shots. The points Choong dropped were mainly through over enthusiasm.

David Choong was the first seeded Malayan to fail and he went out 15-12, 15-8 to the seeded Dane, Finn Kobbero, who meets Choong's brother Eddie in the semi-final tomorrow.

Choong could find little to answer Koberro's quick changes in attack. The Dane found Choong vulnerable to make high smashes and he was generally in command.

LACKED STING

In his first game, Choong's shots lacked sting. He was slow about the court and was often caught out of position.

Kobbero who had earlier defeated another Malayan, Oon Chong-teik, adopted similar tactics, penetrating Choong's defence with some hard hitting to the baselines. He was always in control at the net and his victory never seemed in doubt.

Johnny Heah, the seeded Malayan player beat V. M. Bhat of India 15-10, 15-6 in the third round of the Men's Singles in the All-England badminton championships.

He meets the promising young seeded Swedish player Bertil Glans. Heah trailed 4-10 in the first game before suddenly striking his top form. He produced a stream of accurately angled shots to get the Indian on the run and took 11 points in a row for game.

Heah took a seven one lead in the second game and finished a comfortable winner.

Oon Chong-teik, Malaya, was no match for the Danish International, Finn Kobbero in the third round. Kobbero kept a firm grip on the game throughout. The Malayan was never allowed to settle down to his usual game and he was continually hustled to the back of the court by Kobbero's penetrating shots.

David Choong had a fright before beating Dahlberg to reach the quarter-finals. After leading 11-6 Choong lapsed into errors and Dahlberg drew up to 11 all.

GRIM TUSSLE

A grim tussle ensued with Dahlberg taking advantage of his height and reach to smash home sharply angled overhead shots. Scores were levelled again at 12 all before the Swede clinched the game.

Choong trailed 1-4 in the second game but then tightened his game to win 15-6. He had found the measure of his opponent and took the third game comfortably.

Wong Peng-soon was given a hard and fast game before he beat the seeded Dane, J. Hammergaard Hansen 17-14, 15-1, to enter the semi-finals.

Wong was behind at the start, badly mistiming his shots and rarely getting up to the net. After prolonged rallies he drew up to five all but fell back again and trailed 8-12.

Hansen was playing brilliantly, picking up Wong's smashes, while his own crisp backhand shots left the Malayan standing.

Wong though struggling, showed his superior court craft and drew up to 12 all and 14 all before winning the next three points for the game.

The second game was in contrast to the first. Wong was determined to get on top from the start and this he managed with surprising ease. Finding more speed about the court, his strokes were superb and with a brilliant backhand featuring his smooth play, he never allowed Hansen to get back into the game.

Johnny Heah, another Malayan seeded player, followed David Choong out of the men's singles after losing a hard fight to the young Swede Bertil Glans. Glans qualifies to meet Wong Peng-soon in the semi-finals tomorrow.

Heah and Glans were evenly matched and they produced some of the most interesting play of the day.

The initiative changed hands on numerous occasions but Glans usually managed to pull out that little extra at vital times.

Heah showed a weakness on his backhand and the alert young Swede was quick to exploit this. At one stage he produced some lightning smashes to Heah's backhand to take a vital lead after the Malayan had led 8-7 in the final game.—Reuter.

THE RESULTS

Women's Singles Quarter-Finals:

Miss M. Shedd (Canada) beat Miss S. Devlin (United States) 11-8, 11-4.

Men's Singles Quarter-finals:

B. Glans (Sweden) beat H. A. Heah (Malaya) 15-9, 9-15, 15-10.

Finn Kobbero (Denmark) beat David Choong (Malaya) 15-12, 15-8.

Eddy Choong beat J. A. Broadhurst, (England) 15-5 and 15-3.

Wong Peng-soon (Malaya) beat Hammergaard Hansen (Denmark) 17-14, 15-1.

Hutton Expected To Play In Test Match Today

Auckland, Mar. 25.

Len Hutton's victorious England team begin the last match of the Australian tour today when they meet New Zealand here in the third Test. It is the seventh test match of the tour.

The match has aroused tremendous interest, and very large attendances are expected. The weather is perfect, but no one expects the match to last five days. An overwhelming England victory is anticipated, but all want to see Tyson, Statham, Graveney, May, Cowdrey and Evans.

Len Hutton, recovered from influenza, is expected to be fit to play. Manager Geoffrey Howard said today that the MCC's share of the gross gates of the Australian tour is A£75,980, giving a profit £20,000 sterling. Added to this is £1,000 guaranteed by new Zealand, plus £450 as New Zealand's share of payment towards air fares home.

New Zealand anticipated a £10,000 Australian profit from this MCC visit and their cricket authorities are delighted with Hutton and his team for their excellent cricket.

England's team for today's Test will be the same as that which beat New Zealand by eight wickets in the first test at Dunedin last week.

The batting order for the match was L. Hutton (captain), T. W. Graveney, P. B. May, M. C. Cowdrey, R. T. Simpson, T. E. Bailey, T. G. Evans, J. H. Wardle, F. Tyson, A. Appleyard and J. B. Statham.

The New Zealand team, showing three changes from the side beaten at Dunedin is: G. A. Rabone, (captain), J. R. Reid, J. A. Hayes, M. Poore, J. G. Leggat, B. Sutcliffe, H. B. Cave, S. H. McGregor, I. A. Colquhoun M. Moir and A. R. McGibbon.

Leggat and Poore who can both be used as opening batsmen, come in for N. E. Chapple and L. Watt, while Hayes, a fast bowler, takes the place of R. Moir.—China Mail Special.

NEW ZEALAND 76 FOR 3

Auckland, Mar. 25.

New Zealand scored 76 for three wickets at lunch on the opening day of the second and final Test here today.—Reuter.

CHELSEA SCORE AN AWAY WIN OVER CARDIFF

London, Mar. 23.

Association Football results:

Division I

Cardiff City 0, Chelsea 1.
Everton 4, Huddersfield Town 0.

Division III (South)

Brighton and Hove 5, Exeter City 3.

Division III (North)

Gateshead 4, Stockport County 4.
Hartlepools United 3, Grimsby Town 2.

Scottish League "A"

Hibernian 4, Stirling Albion 1.

Scottish League "B"

Queen's Park 1, Hamilton Academicals 2.

The revised table in the First Division shows the following leaders:

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Chelsea	36	16	10	9	69	51	42
Wolves	33	16	9	8	78	55	41
Manchester C.	33	15	8	10	63	55	38
Sunderland	34	11	16	7	50	44	38
Portsmouth	32	14	8	10	58	46	36
Everton	32	15	8	9	54	45	38

In an International played at Sheffield, England 'B' and Germany 'B' drew 1-1.

England led 1-0 at half-time.—Reuter.

PAN-AMERICAN GAMES

Mexico City, Mar. 24.

Mexico's Joaquin Capilla won the men's 10-metre platform diving title today in taking his second Pan American games championship.

Leonore Fisher of Canada won the women's 100 Metres Back Stroke final.

Clark Scholes of the United States won the 100 Metres Free Style event.—United Press.

POOR RESPONSE FOR BADMINTON CHAMPIONSHIPS

Due to the very poor support, especially in the ladies' section, the Executive Committee of the Hongkong Badminton Association has decided to extend the closing date for entries for the Colony Badminton Championships from March 22 to March 30.

WEEK-END CRICKET TEAMS

The following have been selected to represent their respective clubs and teams in League and friendly cricket matches over the week-end.

KCC

Hancock Shield Match

The following will represent the KCC v HKCC to-morrow at 1.30 p.m. and on Sunday the 27th inst. at 11 a.m. (Away): — A. Zimmern, P. Wood, R.G. Heron, W.M. Davidson, R. Jenner, R. Bell, B.C.N. Carnell, R.E. Lee, D.G. Coffey, H. Chamberlain, P.V. Dodge. Scorer: Mrs H. Chamberlain. Umpire: R. Hall.

The following will represent the KCC 2nd XI v Dockyard Club to-morrow at 1.30 p.m. (Home) in a league match: — S.V. Gittins, N. Hart Baker, C.S. Ramage, C.M. Guilford, T. Crabtree, W.J.B. Lewis, A.J. Catley, J. Marshall, K. Lo, R. Maddox, R.F. Apps.

University Cricket

The annual cricket match between the University Staff and Students is scheduled to be played to-morrow at Pokfulum. The match will begin at 1.30 p.m.

Students wishing to see their tutors at work with the cricket ball and bat should come and watch this interesting game.

Staff XI:—Dr T. R. Tregear (Capt), R.H. Leary, O. Tunnel, L. Berry, B.P. Ruxton, Prof J.E. Driver, Prof B. Harrison, A.W.T. Green, T.K. David, A. Rowe-Evans, A.N. Other.

Students XI:—S.M. Teh (Capt), A. Yau, B.K. Poh, N.H. Peters, G. Kent, R. Jothy, H. Ching, G. Low, M. Sampasiwam, C. Emmanuel, S. L. Ma.

Scorer: Mrs Leary.

Umpires: J.C. Koh, A.E. Low.

IRC

The following have been selected to represent the Club in its fixtures for this week-end:

IRC v Govt Executive Officers' Cricket Team to-morrow at IRC commencing 2 p.m.—Arthur Rumjahn (Capt), A.R. Kitchell, G.E.M. Truter, A.M. Omar, A.R. Abbas, S.A. Ismail, H.T. Barma, S.E.M. Bux, M.M. Samy, K. Lalchand. Umpire: K.M. Omar. Scorer: F. Minu.

Second Division League

IRC 'A' v Army on Sunday on the Army Ground, Sookunpoo, match commencing 1.30 p.m.—A.R. Kitchell (Capt), S.E.M. Bux, G.E.M. Truter, Ali Khan, A.S. Rumjahn, S.A. Ismail, E. Minu, R. Lalchandani, Adam Khan, R.N. Omar, O. Adem. Umpire: M.I. Razack. Scorer: F. Minu.

RAF

The following have been selected to represent the Royal Air Force in a First Division match against Recreio at King's Park to-morrow:—Lee, Gaundry-White, Power, Green, Henderson, Welch, Taylor, Birley, Davies, Bibby, Ashby. 12th man: Stanbridge. Umpire: Sgt Robinson.

Sports Diary

TODAY

Tennis

HKCC Championships at Chater Road.

Meetings

HKLBA Annual Meeting at SCM Post 5.45 p.m.

CAAF Meeting at Ying King Restaurant 6 p.m.

TOMORROW

Soccer

Senior Shield Final: Army v South China (Club) 4.30 p.m. Junior Shield Final: Army v South China (Club) 2.30 p.m.

Div. 3: Hollandia v H.K. Aircraft (HV).

Athletics

Colony Championships (First Day) Caroline Hill 2 p.m.

Ladies Hockey

Recreio "A" v Dorians "B" (BS).

Racing

Ninth Race Meeting Happy Valley 2 p.m.

SUNDAY

Soccer

Div. 1: Club v RAF (Navy) 5 p.m.; St. Joseph's v Police (Skp) 5 p.m.; Kwong Wah v Army (Club) 5 p.m.

Div. 2 "A": Taikoo v Kitchee (Navy) 3.30 p.m.; Sing Tao v St. Joseph's (Skpk) 3.30 p.m.; Club v Army (Club) 3.30 p.m.; CAA v South China (CH) 3.30 p.m.; Gymnastic v RAF (BS) 3.30 p.m.; KMB v Western (BS) 3.30 p.m.; Eastern v Police (HV) 3.30 p.m.

Div. 3: Kowloon Godown v RIL; Lane Crawford v University. Both matches at Happy Valley 3.30 p.m.

Fraisca v Watson's; Road Works v Rediffusion; Tamar v KMB. All matches at 5 p.m.

Athletics

Colony Championships (Second Day) South China Stadium 2 p.m.

Hockey

Div. 1: RN "A" v Recreio "A" (Recreio) 3.30 p.m.; Army "B" v Army "A" (Skp) 4 p.m.; RAF "A" v Recreio "B" (Kai Tak) 4 p.m.

Div. 2: Army "C" v Sookunpoots "B" (Skp) 2.30 p.m.; RAF "B" v Sookunpoots "A" (Kai Tak) 2.30 p.m.; KTTC v Knights (KP) 11 a.m.; HKAAF v Nav Bharat "B" (KP) 2.30 p.m.

Golf

Fanling Mixed Foursomes Final; Open Four Balls Third Round.

Whatever the subject CAPTURE IT WITH

• JACOBY ON BRIDGE

Try This Bidding If You're Expert

By OSWALD JACOBY

THE slam in today's hand isn't the easiest slam to bid, but probably an expert pair should get to it. South's unwillingness to stand for a double of the vulnerable opponents at two clubs certainly indicated marked shortness in clubs.

Moreover, South's jump bid of three hearts showed that he had a good hand and wasn't running out of the double because of abject weakness.

When the hand was actually played, however, North jumped to six spades partly out of annoyance. He had hoped for great things from his double of two clubs. Actually, West would have been set only two tricks, and the slam at spades was far more profitable.

West opened the king of clubs, and South ruffed. Expecting no trouble, South led a trump to dummy's king and continued with the queen of trumps. When East discarded on the second round of trumps, South took thought for the future.

After deep thought, South cashed dummy's ace of hearts and overtook the jack of spades with his ace, establishing a trump trick for West. This was, however, the only trick that West could get. South led his

NORTH (D) 6
♠ K Q J
♥ A
♦ A K Q 7
♣ 7 6 4 3 2

WEST
♠ 10 9 8 7
♥ 4
♦ 9 3
♣ A K Q 10 8 5

EAST
♠ 4
♥ 9 8 6 5 3 2
♦ J 10 8 4
♣ J 9

SOUTH
♠ A 6 5 3 2
♥ K Q J 10 7
♦ 6 5 2
♣ None

East-West vul.

North	East	South	West
1 ♦	Pass	1 ♠	2 ♣
Double	Pass	3 ♥	Pass
6 ♠	Pass	Pass	Pass

Opening lead—♣ K

good hearts and announced that he would lead high red cards until West wanted to take his trump trick.

South would not have made his slam if he had failed to overtake dummy's jack of trumps. If dummy wins the third trump with the jack, there is no way for declarer to get to his own hand except by ruffing a diamond or a club with his last trump.

That would leave West with a high trump and several good clubs, so that the slam would be set three tricks.

♥♣ CARD Sense ♠♦

Q—The bidding has been:

North	East	South	West
1 Club	Pass	1 Diamond	Pass
1 Heart	Pass	?	

You, South, hold: Spades K-J-2, Hearts J-5-4, Diamonds A-J-9-6-2, Clubs 7-3. What do you do?

A—Bid one no-trump. This is a near-maximum hand for your rebid of one no-trump. With slightly greater strength you would look around for a different rebid to hint at your additional strength.

TODAY'S QUESTION

The bidding is the same as in the question just answered. You, South, hold: Spades K-7-3-2, Hearts J-5-4, Diamonds K-J-9-6, Clubs 7-3. What do you do?

Answer Tomorrow

• BY • THE • WAY •

by Beachcomber

A TOBACCONIST, after carefully examining a cigar 3½ feet long and five inches in circumference, said it would take six men in relays to smoke it, and would last for twelve hours.

Very rich men who have no time to smoke often hire people to smoke for them. The difficulty about smoking such a large cigar yourself is that you can't take a few puffs, stub it out and put it behind your ear or in your hat for future use. I knew a stockbroker who, after a smart deal, came home in such elation that he put one of these cigars in the umbrella stand and tried to light the muddy ferrule of his umbrella. "What on earth are you doing, Mortimer?" asked his wife. "Damned thing's damp," replied her husband, taking the handle out of his mouth, "it won't draw."

Talking of maharajahs

A GOSSIP column reports that a lady said, "He's the nicest maharajah I know." There are various ways of saying that. There is the casual manner, as though you were jostled by crowds of maharajahs all day long. There is the affected-shy manner. You say it dreamily, dipping your finger absentmindedly in the mustard, and tracing his initials on the tablecloth. And there's the really snobbish, disdainful manner, with the accent on "Maharajah," implying that as far as maharajahs go, and they are three a penny today, this one was all right. As for mere rajahs, they are quite too impossible, my dear.

Haul away, Nesta!

"HAUL in the nets, Nesta. They are already heavy with fish."

"What a catch, Mortimer! We must return to this spot when we have deposited our scaly burden upon the quayside."

"Yes, but how shall we find the exact spot again? The sea is large, Nesta."

"We will paint a small white circle on the bottom of the boat, to mark the spot."

"An excellent idea. Now, shoreward ho!"

(FROM "Fish, Ahoy!" by Theodosia Metternich.)

In passing

WEALTHY housewives are against the idea of boycotting shops that sell mink coats, in order to bring the prices down. They say that if mink coats became cheap, almost anyone could buy them, and then there would be no point in having one. I recall the agonised cry of a painfully smart young man many years ago. He said to me (I am not inventing this): "Even the cheap shops are selling Oxford trousers now!" His world had fallen in ruins about him.

YOUR BIRTHDAY ... By STELLA

FRIDAY, MARCH 25

BORN today, you are one of those "born" managers. Highly practical, with a big bump of order as well as the ability to organise work for others, you should do well in any kind of work which calls for a high form of co-operative endeavour. There are artistic capabilities but these are too often forgotten or neglected because of your other abilities. However, if you are thrust into business or commerce, you will not be entirely happy, for there is too much of the artist in your make-up to permit you to be content handling nothing but stocks and bonds, columns of figures or shipping reports!

Not that you haven't a keen eye for making money, for you have! You know a good thing when you see it and are Johnny-on-the-spot to take full advantage of any offered opportunity. And, if things aren't breaking well enough for you, you show no hesitation about going out and looking for what you want! You have plenty of push and initiative and let no one think you are an easy mark!

Your emtoions are very deep and it is possible that you will have one or two unhappy romances before you settle down to wed the one you really love. When that happens, however, you should enjoy exceptional happiness.

Among those born on this date are: Michael Davill, Irish patriot; William Revell Moody, educator; Arturo Toscanini, conductor; Gutzon Borglum, sculptor; Edward Ziegler, music critic and Binnie Barnes, actress.

To find what the stars have in store for you tomorrow, select your birthday star and read the corresponding paragraph. Let your birthday star be your daily guide.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26

ARIES (Mar. 21-Apr. 20)—Let down tensions this week-end. You owe it to yourself to get in some pleasant recreation, for a change.

TAURUS (Apr. 21-May 21)—Finish up jobs on the home front early this morning, so that you can spend the balance of the week-end having fun!

GEMINI (May 22-June 21)—Spring is definitely here, so get out into the open if you can. How about starting a garden?

CANCER (June 22-July 23)—A fine day to do some shopping, but curb extravagance. Find bargains in the things you really need.

LEO (July 24-Aug. 23)—This can be a happy day at home. You might invite some close friends to spend the evening with you.

VIRGO (Aug. 24-Sept. 23)—Get an early start on housework that must be done so that you will have afternoon and evening free.

LIBRA (Sept. 24-Oct. 23)—This can be a pleasant, happy and constructive week-end. Get some of those "odd jobs" done around the house.

SCORPIO (Oct. 24-Nov. 22)—Plan something interesting for the whole family to do today. A picnic might be the answer.

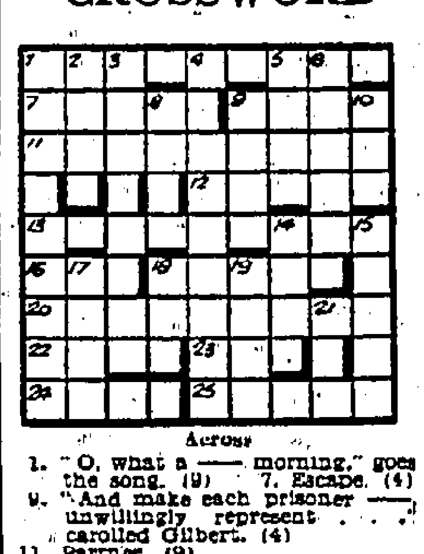
SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 23-Dec. 22)—Emotions are apt to be a little on the edgy side. Cultivate your self-control and use it now.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 23-Jan. 20)—Those of you who have office jobs all week should take this opportunity to get out into the open.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21-Feb. 19)—Load everybody into the family car, take a lunch basket along and have fun in the country.

PISCES (Feb. 20-Mar. 20)—Patience is the answer to all minor problems today! You can have a happy time if you are thoughtful of others.

CROSSWORD

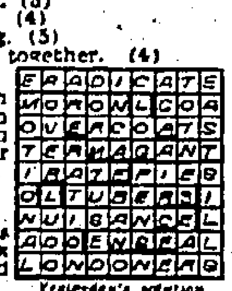


Across

1. "O, what a —— morning," goes the song. (9)
7. Escape. (4)
9. "And make each prisoner —— unwillingly represent . . ." carolled Gilbert. (4)
11. Partner. (9)
12. This bird is a creature of long standing. (5)
13. The chase is on. (3, 3, 3)
16. Scour without science. (3)
18. Diana makes an anagram. (5)
20. Smuggled goods. (9)
22. A king's address . . . (4)
23. . . . Noah's ditto (3).
24. This spouter certainly isn't on the 25 Across. (4)
25. Spirit one has nothing to do with ghosts. (5)

Down

1. It sounds a noisy place at the zoo. (4-5)
2. Otherwise. (4)
3. More rigorous. (8)
4. This kind of college has no place for the arts. (9)
5. Fare changed. (4)
6. Still whole. (6)
8. A rod for a lady. (4)
9. Legendary piper. (4)
10. Appropriately, you've just read the answer. (8)
14. Rum place. (4)
15. Alpine song. (5)
17. One—or all together. (4)
18. George Washington had this in hand when the timber came down (3)
19. Awful. (4)
21. Stag at this had drunk his fill, said Scott. (3)



Yesterday's solution

TARGET

H	I	D
M	O	T
L	G	S

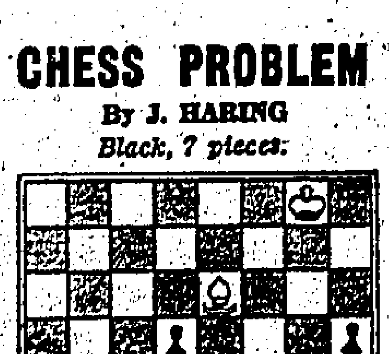
HOW many words of four letters or more can you make from the letters in the square on the left? In making each word the letters in each of the small squares may be used once only. Each word must contain the large letter in the centre square and there must be at least one nine-letter word in the list. No plurals; no proper names; no foreign words. TODAY'S TARGET: 32 words, good; 36 words, very good; 40 words, excellent. Solution tomorrow.

YESTERDAY'S SOLUTION: Aloof deaf deli fade false FALSEHOOD flash flashed flea fled flesh floe flood foal foaled fold food fool fooled half hoof hoofed leaf loaf loafed loofah safe self selfhood shadoof sheaf shelf sofa.

CHESS PROBLEM

By J. HARING

Black, 7 pieces.



White, 8 pieces.

White to play: mate in two.

Solution to yesterday's problem:

1, Q×KBP, any; 2, Q, R, B, Kt, or P mates.

"SCISSORS!!!"

WOMANSENSE

It's Pretty And Dainty

"Marsaquin", a dainty Spring hat by Rose Valois. It is adorned with pretty flowers.—Agence France-Presse.

DRESSING UP TWO OLD STAND-BYS

FRANKFURTERS and hamburger know no season. Summer or winter, they retain their popularity with children and adults alike.

Use a little imagination with these old stand-bys and they will be even more welcome.

Frankfurters and sauerkraut may be embellished by a few clever additions.

To serve 4, combine a No. 303 tin (2 c.) sauerkraut with ¾ tsp. caraway seed, 2 tbsp. finely chopped onion, ½ c. ketchup, and 3 tbsp. brown sugar. Simmer, covered, for 20 min.

Split each of 8 frankfurters lengthwise without cutting all the way through. Fill each slit with a ¼-in. strip cheese, and wrap each frank with a slice of bacon, fastening with toothpicks. Place on a rack in a shallow pan at 425° F. for about 15 min., or until bacon is cooked to desired crispness. Serve kraut topped with stuffed franks.

For a special touch, serve frankfurters in a sour cream sauce.

To serve 4, cut 6 frankfurters in ½-in. slices and brown in 2 tbsp. hot fat. Stir in 2 tsp. flour. Add 3 tbsp. ketchup, 1 c. sour cream, 2 tsp. sugar, ¼ tsp. salt and ¼ c. water.

Heat to boiling point, but do not boil. Serve on rice and noodles. Makes a delicious and satisfying luncheon or supper special.

For an inexpensive casserole dish to serve 4, cook 1 c. elbow macaroni in boiling water until nearly tender—about 8 min. Drain well and add ¾ c. milk, ¼ c. chopped pimiento, tsp. salt, ⅛ tsp. pepper, 1½ tsp. Worcestershire sauce, ½ c. grated cheese. Pour into greased 8x8 in. baking dish.

Split 8 frankfurters almost through lengthwise. Cut in half and arrange on top of macaroni mixture; fill slits with chili sauce or ketchup. Bake at 350° F. for 25 min.

—ALICE DENHOFF

PART II OF "THE HUMAN SKIN"

A CONVENIENT ORGAN TO DOCTORS

By W. W. BAUER, M.D.

THE skin also has a protective function through its oiliness which makes it waterproof. It resists infection and unless it is broken or subjected to severe exposures such as those resulting in chapping, it is virtually germ-proof.

The sensitivity of the skin to outside stimuli is important. It responds to such a light touch as an insect or spider walking over it. Through nerve endings it telegraphs danger to a nerve centre from which, in turn, swift reflex action is telegraphed back to muscles. It becomes possible to react quickly to an unfavourable stimulus; you can jerk your finger off a hot object faster than you can think about doing it.

In the skin are found separate organs for the perception of pressure, heat, cold, and pain. The normal skin distinguishes between a pin prick or the broad, flat pressure which can be exerted by a ruler, a book or other large object. It is through this keen sense of touch that blind persons can read Braille.

SHARP REACTIONS

The normal skin can also distinguish between two sharp points if these are placed more than approximately one-eighth of an inch apart. Obviously, it perceives heat and cold and its reaction to pain is well known.

Modified skin structures are important protection aids. Hair protects the head from injury, from too much sun and from cold. In other parts of the body, it serves as a cushion to keep adjacent skin surfaces from irritating each other. Over the entire body fine, almost invisible hairs also have a warning and protective function. In some individuals, these body hairs are greatly increased. Hard, horn-like structures (the nails) protect the fingers and toes against injury.

Doctors find the human skin a highly convenient organ. By its pallor or its flushing, by its smoothness or its roughening, and by the appearance of skin eruptions, they are able to get much information useful in the diagnosis of many diseases. Tests applied to the skin may disclose the location of disease or injury in the brain through disturbances of touch, pressure, heat, cold, or pain perception. Many important tests, such as the Schick test for diphtheria, tuberculin tests and scratch or patch tests for allergies, depend upon the reaction of the skin to foreign matter applied to it or injected into it.

The oily nature of the skin, however, makes it impervious to most substances applied to it and it is therefore virtually impossible to give general medication by rubbing it on the skin. A conspicuous exception to this latter quality is in the case of mercurial ointment, an historical treatment for syphilis, which has been superseded by more modern methods.

THERAPEUTIC BATHS

Applications of heat or cold to the skin may, however, so influence the general circulation as to have effects deeper within the body. Thus a hot bath with flushing of the skin brings more blood to the surface, while a cold bath has the opposite effect. Therapeutic baths with carbonated water may also stimulate the skin to the extent which may be dangerous unless medically supervised. Such baths are not comparable to the cosmetic "bubble bath" preparations which carry no dangerous implications.

NYLON SPORTS WEAR

It was a male fashion show but somehow a woman crept into the picture at the Men's Trade Fair when this tennis outfit in spun nylon shorts and kitted nylon shirt was shown. The girl, incidentally, is wearing an "A" line tennis dress in nylon fabric.

HOUSEHOLD HINTS

Select your glass cooking dishes with an eye toward using them at the dining table. Colours of both individual and family-size glass casserole dishes now are co-ordinated with dinnerware. Used together, they make handsome table settings and cut down on dish-washing chores.

• • •

Rub vaseline on hinges of doors when painting or varnishing them. Then any paint which gets on the hinges will wipe off easily.

BOYS' AND GIRLS' MAGAZINE

A Miniature Train

—Knarf and Hanid Go to Washington on It—

By MAX TRELL

THE railroad station was just behind the bookcase. You will understand by this that it wasn't an ordinary kind of railroad station. In fact it was a very extraordinary station. It was about the size of a handkerchief. The tracks were like the prongs of a fork. The locomotive and the cars weren't much bigger than match-boxes.

Great Travellers

But Knarf and Hanid the shadow - children with the turned-about names, used this railroad all the time. They went roaming all over the country.

The conductor's name was Mr Toothpick. The engineer's name was Mr Mite. The brakeman's name was Mr Seed. The ticket-seller's name was Mr Stubb.

So one day Knarf and Hanid made themselves small and bought two tickets from Mr Stubb to Washington, D.C.

"That's where the President lives," Hanid said to her brother Knarf, as they stepped aboard the train.

"All aboard," shouted Mr Toothpick, the conductor. Then he waved his lantern at Mr Mite who pulled the throttle of the locomotive, which puffed and snorted.

The next minute, they went clicking and clacking over the rails until suddenly, they curved into a long, black tunnel.

"I can't see a thing," said Knarf to his sister Hanid.

"Washington next stop!" Mr Toothpick called out.

Sure enough, at the end of the tunnel, there was Washington, D.C.

Knarf and Hanid got off the train and looked around them.

"Just look at that big, white building with the round top!" cried Knarf, pointing to a hill. "What building is that?"

Fortunately, Mrs Directory came along at that moment. "I answer all questions," she said. "That big, white building with a round top standing on the summit of the hill is the Capitol. No one lives there. That's where the Congress meets."

Then Knarf and Hanid walked and walked until they came to a tall, smooth, slender tower.

"That," said Mrs Directory, who had walked along with them, "is the Washington Monument. Shall we climb to the top of it?"

Knarf and Hanid opened their eyes until they were as big as saucers. "How can we climb to the top of it?" Knarf said, finding his voice at last. "It's too smooth!"

"Follow me!" said Mrs Directory. "We're not going to climb up the outside." They went inside with her. An elevator took them quickly to the top. And here from a window, they saw all Washington below them. They saw the Lincoln Monument.

Mrs Directory shows the Shadows the Washington Monument.

The President's Home

They saw the Lagoon with the Japanese cherry trees fringing the banks.

They saw the Potomac.

They saw the Jefferson Monument.

They saw the Supreme Court.

"And what," said Knarf, pointing at a white house standing in the middle of a park with a high, iron fence all around it, "is that white house?"

"That," said Mrs Directory, "is the White House. It's where the President lives."

Rupert and the Broken Plate—30

When the precious stones are safely pocketed in a leather bag the younger man explains the mystery. "My friend comes from a wealthy family abroad," he says, "but long ago, during the bad times, one of his ancestors, wishing to conceal his treasure, had some plates made with the family diamonds hidden in the thickness of the china. We have now traced this, the last of the plates, and my friend wishes to give a reward." And Rupert finds himself clutching a tightly packed bundle of notes which he shows Mr. Bear.

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Are You Photogenic?

BY HELEN FOLLETT

HAS your best beau, now far away, asked for a new photograph of you? Then you may be interested in learning about some good-looks rules that should be followed when posing before the camera.

Use powder lightly. Omit rouge. It forms a shadow, may give your face an unnatural appearance in the portrait.

Apply lipstick deftly, forming a clear-cut outline. Select a light shade. Just before posing, moisten your lips so they will look soft and full.

If you apply pencil eyebrow, do not form a hard, straight line. Use light, little strokes, being careful not to touch the skin beneath.

A bit of mascara on the lashes will accent them.

Some photographers apply a light film of brown grease paint over the eyelids. It seems to be more effective in bringing out eye beauty than shadows of other colours.

• •

Have your hair set several days before your appointment, so your locks will appear soft and fluid. Don't attempt a new arrangement. It takes time for the hair to adjust itself gracefully to a new coiffure.

Wear a frock in which you are completely at ease. A plain one is best. One that is too decorative will detract from the picture that is You. See that the neckline is becoming. A plain fabric is a happier choice than one that has a pattern. Go easy on costume jewellery and ornaments.

Assume an easy pose when the camera's eye is directed toward you. Take a deep breath and relax comfortably.

Get a good night's sleep before the big day, and make the appointment early in the morning when you feel fresh and rested.

Spectacular Falls In Grand National Callover Prices

London, Mar. 24.

There were some spectacular falls in the prices of leading candidates for tomorrow's Grand National Steeplechase at tonight's Victoria Club Callover here.

Bookmakers face heavy losses as a result of the low-priced Military Court's win in the Lincolnshire Handicap yesterday, and many of them were trying to balance their books in view of the amount they stood to lose on bets in the "Spring Double," of which the Grand National is the second leg.

The 1953 winner, Early Mist, who was offered at 21-2 at Monday's Callover, dropped three points to 15-2 while second favourite, Tudor Line, came from 100-7 to 19-2.

The Chairman of the Victoria Club announced that because of the doubt about Goosander running, he would not be called.

Fancied horses backed to win over £250,000 Sterling. Other well supported were Irish Lizard, who dropped from 20-1 to 100-7, and Mr Linnett (28-1 to 22-1).

CLOSING OFFERS

Grand National Steeplechase (four miles 856 yards on March 26) closing offers tonight were:

15-2 Early Mist,
19-2 Tudor Line,
100-9 Quare Times,
100-8 Copp,
100-7 Irish Lizard and Mariners Log,
18-1 M'as Tu Vu,
21-1 Carey's Cottage,
22-1 Royal Tan and Little Yid,
40-1 Another Rake,
50-1 Oriental Way, Dark Stranger, Gentle Moya, No Response and Clearing,
66-1 Red Rube,
100-1 and upwards others.

The final Grand National callover will take place tomorrow night.—Reuter.

DOUBTFUL RUNNER

Liverpool, Mar. 24.

Goosander, a big public fancy at ten to one in the betting, has foot trouble and is a doubtful runner in the four and a half miles Grand National Steeplechase here tomorrow.

Trainer Neville Crump said here today: "Pus was coming out of one of Goosander's feet today, and we can't tell whether this will clear up by Saturday.

"I shall bring the horse to Liverpool tomorrow, and if he is sound after doing work on the course, he will run. I think his chance of competing in the Grand National is about 50-50."

Goosander, to be ridden by Arthur Thompson, has been the chief Grand National hope of northern backers for several weeks.—China Mail Special.

Cambridge And Oxford Completes Training

London, Mar. 24.

Both Cambridge and Oxford University crews finished their serious training today for Saturday's annual boat race.

Oxford put up a splendid performance in clocking five seconds off a long-standing record, rowing from the Mile Post to Putney Bridge in four minutes, ten seconds. The record of four minutes 15 seconds was held jointly by the Cambridge crews of 1911 and 1927.

Cambridge were out this morning and showed their best form of the season in a first-class two-minute row in slightly choppy water. Cambridge have come on extremely well in the past few days and put up a noteworthy performance yesterday by equalling the stage record of three minutes 37 seconds from Chiswick Steps to Hammersmith Bridge.

In 1938, the Cambridge eight had been the undisputed record holders.

Both crews also practiced starts today and there was very little between their all important opening spurts.—Reuter.

Army Easily Beats RAF Sai Wan In Foil League

The Army trounced the Royal Air Force Little Sai Wan 24 wins to one in a foil league match at Chatham Road yesterday. Army, with such famous fencers as Major Brewer and Eberhardie in the side proved far too experienced for the Airmen.

Army: Chan Sioff 5, Forbes 4, Day 5, Brewer 5, Eberhardie 5. Total 25 wins.

RAF Little Sai Wan: Carter 0, Ardy 0, Patterson 1, Loullie 0, Hewish 0. Total 1 win.

WORLD RECORD ATTEMPT

London, Mar. 24.

A British team is to attempt to set up a new world record for the women's 4 x 100 yards medley relay swimming race, it was announced here today.

The present record of 4 minutes 43.4 seconds, was set up by the United States Lafayette SC team on Feb. 13, last year.

The British team composed of Angela Barnwell (free style) Margaret Edward (backstroke), Margaret Grundy (breast-stroke) and Valerie Smith (butterfly stroke) will make its attempt on April 23, at Vallasey, Cheshire.—France-Presse.

CLAIR SOLEIL WINS CHAMPION HURDLE

Clair Soleil, owned by Mr G. Judd, trained by Ryan Price and ridden by Fred Winter, won the Champion Hurdle Challenge Cup at Cheltenham by a head from the Irish horse, Stroller, ridden by T. B. Burns, with Cruachan, ridden by G. Slack, third.

Photo shows Clair Soleil (on right, No. 5) leading at the last hurdle. On the left is Stroller (No. 3) and second from the left is Cruachan (No. 9).—Reuterphoto.

Tomorrow's Chances At The Valley

By "RAPIER"

The Hongkong Jockey Club's Ninth Meeting of the season will be held tomorrow afternoon. The first saddling bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. with the first race at 2.00 p.m.

An attractive programme of 10 events with satisfactory entries has been drawn up for this meeting, outstanding among which is the Shaukiwan Handicap for Class 2 ponies over the two-mile post.

Here are my estimates of the chances:—

FIRST RACE

Tunglowan Handicap: From 2-Mile Post.

Class 7 ponies will contest the opening event of the afternoon for Novice Riders. The following should be worth watching.—Desert Gold (Mr Andrew Chan) Fleetmaster (Mr Starr Liu), V.I.P. (Mr Alex Lam), and Tune-phone (Mr Herbert Lee).

Desert Gold, which won the Mount Nicholson Handicap (First Section) for Class 8 ponies over the mile at the last meeting, appears the logical choice. It ran very convincingly in the above race and should have a good chance of scoring another win here.

The danger will probably come from Fleetmaster, which is good over this route although unplaced at the 7th Race Meeting after being made hot favourite.

The distance is more to V.I.P's liking and it should not be ignored, as the pony is quite capable of causing an upset.

Tune-phone is also good for this distance and, with 150 lbs. to handle, is a decided menace.

SECOND RACE

Mataukok Handicap: From 1½ Mile Post.

This sprint race is for Class 6 ponies and it seems that Matador (Mr Renfrew), winner of the Beverley Handicap for Class 7 ponies over this distance at the 7th Race Meeting, has the best recommendation for another win.

It may, however meet with stern oppositon from Rebel II (Mr Travert) which was third the last time out over six furlongs.

Emperor Delight (Mr U. Kum-lun), Flying Dutchman (Mr Tsai), Comet (Mr Botelho) and Pegasus (Mr C. L. Liu) are also good over this distance and can be depended upon to put up a good fight.

THIRD RACE

Shamshuipo Plate: One Mile.

This event will be fought out by Class 9 ponies and, judging from past performances, Gladiolus (Mr Samarcq) will probably win.

Opposition is likely to come from Wild Oat (Mr Kwok).

Kerrera (Mr Ostroumoff) is another pony to watch, but it may disappoint again, whilst Gracechurch (Mr C. L. Liu) is not bad.

South Pacific (Mr A Noodt) is another candidate capable of extending the field.

FOURTH RACE

Yaumati Plate: Six Furlongs.

This race is confined to 1955 Ponies. Ponies which have won more than $1,500 or less than $1,250 in stakes are barred. Weight 152 lb. Those ponies which have won less than $1,500 allowed 5 lb.

I think the winner will come from among Misty Law (Mr Samarcq), Raja (Mr Chun Kit), Helicon (Mr Tsai) and Bashful Beauty II (Mr Starr Liu).

Misty Law, in view of its good training gallop on Friday, March 18, when it completed the Six Furlongs in 1.25.1—last quarter 28.2 seconds—has a good chance of scoring a win here, and there is no doubt but that it will meet with serious opposition.

Raja is running well during morning training and should be considered.

Then there is Helicon which will be taken out by Mr Tsai and which should be a dangerous contender as these two form a good combination during morning gallops.

Bashful Beauty II is also worth keeping in mind on account of its good form at the moment.

FIFTH RACE

Shaukiwan Handicap: From 2-Mile Post.

In this race for Class 2 ponies, Huntington (Mr Plumbly) has the best recommendation for a win on account of its victory in the Fontwell Park Handicap for Class 4 ponies at the 7th Race Meeting.

Clonfeckle (Mr Samarcq) is the next best bet but it must also be borne in mind that Caesar (Mr Botelho) should be in the running and I expect it to be near at the finish as it is in tip top condition.

Marietta (Mr Oliveira) and Rainbow (Mr Wei) are not to be ignored, especially the latter which is not bad over this distance.

SIXTH RACE

Hok-Un Handicap: Six Furlongs.

Confined to Class 5 ponies, Good Girl (Mr Samarcq) is about the best in this race in view of its second placing behind How Do I Know at the last Meeting in the Mount Parker Handicap (Second Section) over the mile with Mr Botelho up.

While I consider that it has a good chance of winning here I expect it to receive stiff opposition from Hiram C (Mr Renfrew) which was third in the Magazine Gap Handicap at the last meeting.

Fighting Spirit (Mr K. Shih), Harmony (Mr Yau) and Ringway (Mr Plumbly) are not to be disregarded as they can give a good account of themselves against the above named two ponies.

SEVENTH RACE

Chungwan Handicap: Six Furlongs.

In view of its win in the Pineapple Pass Handicap (First Section) over this distance at the 7th Race Meeting for Class 8 ponies, ridden by Mr Plumbly and carrying 159 lbs. Ironside (Mr Ostroumoff) will be the pony in most demand by bettors tomorrow.

His closest rivals are Strathpeffer (Mr Plumbly) and King Rider (Mr T. L. Wong).

Pearl of Hongkong (Mr Albert Lam) and Tip Top (Mr C. L. Liu) are also good over this distance and are fit enough to be a menace to the above named ponies if favoured with a good start.

EIGHTH RACE

Matauwei Handicap: 1¼ Miles.

The two best ponies in this race are undoubtedly Prince Dahlia (Mr H. K. Hung) and Allied Victory (Mr C. L. Liu).

Prince Dahlia was second in the Pottinger Gap Handicap over the two-mile post at the 8th Race Meeting and, judging by that performance, I think it has a good chance of scoring a win here.

Allied Victory has shown improvement during morning gallops and over this distance it must therefore be seriously considered.

Avoca (Mr Ostroumoff) and The Stranger (Mr Alex Lam) should fight out the third position.

NINTH RACE

Pokfulam Handicap: Six Furlongs.

This is another sprint race in which Class 2 ponies will figure. I don't think it is necessary to look further than Beat That (Mr Plumbly) among the entries for the likely winner. It will be called upon to carry 152 lbs. tomorrow, but due to the short distance and the fact that it has won the Newmarket Handicap, carrying 150 lbs. over the two-mile post at the 7th Race Meeting, I believe that it can shoulder this extra weight and win again.

This strongest opposition will come from Star-glo, which will be taken out by Mr Kwok. The pony is certainly very fit and may prove dangerous, and a win from this combination is not impossible.

Beautiful Life (Mr Wei) should fill third place, with Crackerjack (Mr H. K. Hung) the best outsider.

10TH RACE

Tai Hang Handicap: From 7-Mile Post.

The day's programme will be concluded with a race for Class 6 ponies. In my estimation the result will be decided between Conqueror (Mr Samarcq), Armament (Mr Wei), Straight Flush (Mr Oliveira), and Honey Dew (Mr Kowk).

Conqueror is a greatly improved animal and its third placing in the Mount Parker Handicap (Second Section) over the mile at the last meeting promises a win here.

Armament, which was unplaced the last time out with Mr Joseph Lam up, is well suited for this distance and will be near at the finish.

On the other hand, Straight Flush has not been in the limelight for some time, but it may spring a surprise.

Honey Dew is not bad and this pony is just as capable as the others of winning.

ST. JOHN AMBULANCE BRIGADE ORDERS

Order by Dr F. I. Tseung, C.St.J., Deputy Commissioner-in-Charge of St. John Ambulance Brigade, Hongkong District, Order No. 12/55, Dated March 24, 1955.

Ambulance Duties — Hongkong.—27.3.55.—2.4.55. Causeway Bay Amb. Div.; 3.4.55.—9.4.55. Western Dist. Amb. Div.; March 1955: Central Nsg. Div.; April 1955: King's College Nsg. Div.

Ambulance Duties — Kowloon.—28.3.55.—3.4.55. Kong Wah & Tai Po Amb. Divs.; 4.4.55.—10.4.55. Shamshuipo Amb. Div.; March 1955: Waterloo Nsg. Div.; April 1955: K.Y.M.C.A. Nsg. Div.

Penetration Squad Duties.—27.3.55. Dr C. F. X. da Roza, Dentist I. C. Tseung, D/O Lam Ching-man & K.Y.M.C.A. Nsg. Div.; 3.4.55. Dr Kelly Chu, Dentist H. F. Shields, C/S 2. el Areuili & Central Nsg. Div.

Orderly Duties for Mainland Area Hqts.—25.3.55. Tsimshatsui Amb. Div.; 26.3.55. Shamshuipo Amb. Div.; 27.3.55. Tsimshatsui Amb. Div.; 28.3.55. Waterloo Nsg. Div.; 29.3.55. Mong Kok Amb. Div.; 30.3.55. Kowloon Amb. Div.; 31.3.55. Kowloon Amb. Div.

Race Duties.—26.3.55. At Race Course Shaukiwan Amb. Div.; At Headquarters Sih Nam Amb. Div.; 9.4.55. At Race Course Eastern Amb. Div.; At Headquarters Wanchai "B" Amb. Div.

Football Duties.—24.3.55. 6 p.m. Club Ground: H.K.Y.M.C.A. Amb. Div.; 26.3.55. 2.30 p.m. Club Ground: Central Amb. Div.; 27.3.55. 3.30 p.m. Club Ground: Wanchai "B" Amb. Div.; 3.4.55. 1.45 p.m. R.A.F. Athletic Ground: Kong Wah Amb. Div.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society Duties — Shamshuipo. — 24.3.55 — 26.3.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.; 28.3.55.—29.3.55. Waterloo Nsg. Div.; 30.3.55.—31.3.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

Street Sleepers Shelter Society Duties—Western Dist.—March 1955: Manshuen Nsg. Div.

Mongkok K.F.W.A. Asm. Clinic Duties.—25.3.55.—28.3.55. K.Y.M.C.A. Nsg. Div.; 28.3.55.—29.3.55. Waterloo Nsg. Div.; 30.3.55.—31.3.55. Shamshuipo Nsg. Div.

Transfer.—D/O Mak Chi-wang transferred from Kong Wah Amb. Div. to Mong Kok Amb. Div. w.e.f. 16.3.55.; D/S Au Yeung Kin-chee transferred from Mong Kok Amb. Div. to Tsimshatsui Amb. Div. w.e.f. 16.3.55.; Cpl. Chow Chun-yin transferred from K.Y.M.C.A. Amb. Div. to Mong Kok Amb. Div. w.e.f. 16.3.55.

Appointments and Promotions.—A/S.O. III Tong Shiu-cheong to act in place of Area Supt. (A) R. A. Edwards w.e.f. 12.3.55.; A/S.O. IV Wong Yan-sing to act as A/S.O. IV i/c Administration & Training, Mainland Area w.e.f. 12.3.55.; Mong Kok Amb. Div.: D/O Mak Chi-wang promoted to D/S w.e.f. 16.3.55.; L/C Wong Kok-hing promoted to Cpl. w.e.f. 16.3.55.; Shamshuipo Amb. Div.: Cpl. Lee Kok-hing promoted to Sgt. w.e.f. 16.3.55.; Pte. Yip King-chi promoted to L/C w.e.f. 16.3.55.; Kowloon Amb. Div.: L/C Fung Wah-sen promoted to Cpl. w.e.f. 16.3.55.; Pte Ng Kwok-sheung promoted to L/C w.e.f. 16.3.55.; K.Y.M.C.A. Amb. Div.: L/C Lok Ho-man promoted to Cpl. and appointed to be Hon. Sgt. & Div. Scc. w.e.f. 16.3.55.

Decrease of Strength.—(a) Leave—K.Y.M.C.A. Amb. Div.: Pte Chan Woon-man leave for 6 months w.e.f. 1.3.55.; (b) Resignation—Shamshuipo Amb. Div.: Pte So Chung-keung resigned w.e.f. 16.3.55. Kowloon Amb. Div.: Pte Ng Wing-cheong resigned w.e.f. 16.3.55.; K.Y.M.C.A. Amb. Div.: Cpl. Chan Bing-wah resigned w.e.f. 16.3.55.

(Sgd.) Tse Long Cain, S.B.St.J.
Staff Officer I.
District Headquarters.

Nominate YOUR

Hongkong Footballer Of The Year

Members of the public are invited to nominate whom they consider to be Hongkong's Footballer of the Year for the current season.

It is a popularity poll organised by the China Mail, and nomination coupons will be received until the closing date to be announced later.

The two qualifications for nomination are:
(1) Footballing prowess.
(2) Sportsmanship on the field of play.

Nominations should be addressed to The Editor, China Mail, Wyndham Street, Hongkong.

To The Editor, China Mail.

My nomination for Hongkong's Footballer of the Year, taking into regard his playing ability and his sportsmanship on the field of play is

.....

of the ..... Club.

(Signed).....

ROYAL H.K. DEFENCE FORCE ORDERS

Serial No. 12. Orders By Lieutenant Colonel O. F. Newton Dunn, Commandant Royal Hongkong Defence Force. Dated March 22, 1955.

FORCE HEAQUARTERS

Inf Platoon—Tuesday March 29, 1955. HQ RHKDF 5.30 p.m. Dress: Plain clothes.

Recce Platoon.—Thursday March 31, 1955. Further W/T. Parade HQ RHKDF 5.30 p.m. Dress: Coveralls.

Artillery Battery.—Field Troop Advanced Class, Friday April 1, 1955 6.30 p.m. HQ RHKDF. Plain clothes. TARA III Class, Friday April 1, 1955, 5.30 p.m. HQ RHKDF. Plain clothes. Signallers. Monday March 28, 1955. 5.30 p.m. Signals Hut MPG. Plain clothes. C & E Troop—Monday March 28, 1955. Parade MPG 5.15 p.m. for S.O.C. Dress: Mufti.

HONGKONG REGIMENT

Training.—'A' Coy—Tuesday March 29, 1955. Trg Films. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: Plain clothes. 'B' Coy—Monday March 28, 1955. .22 Competition shoot. R.V. 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 6 Eqpt No. 1 (Bring boostops & puttees and all O.G. Clothings). 'C' Coy—Tuesday March 29, 1955. Documentation Check. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: Civilian clothes. 'D' Coy—Wednesday March 30, 1955. NCO's—Map & Compass. Remainder—Duties of Sentry, Night Patrols. RV 5.10 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 3. Trg Pl—Monday March 28, 1955. Drill. W.T. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 2. Sp Coy MMG & Mor Pl—Wednesday March 30, 1955. No parade. Warning Order Sunday March 27, 1955—8 a.m. Blake Pier/Kowloon Steps for Stonecutters Range. Dress: No. 3 Eqpt No. 3. Hq Coy Sig Pl—Wednesday March 30, 1955. 'A' Sec—RT Procedure. 'B' Sec—Dragon Trophy Shoot. RV 5.30 p.m. at MPG. Dress: Mufti. MT Pl—Wednesday March 30, 1955. MT instr & Lecture. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 3. Eqpt No. 3. Friday April 1, 1955. MC & MT Cadre. RV 5.30 p.m. at RHQ. Dress: No. 3. Int Sec—Wednesday March 30, 1955. Lectures by Pl Comd. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 2. Eqpt No. 1. Med Sec—Wednesday March 30, 1955. Lecture by M.O. & Drill. RV 5.15 p.m. at MPG for RHQ. Dress: No. 1. Eqpt No. 1. Cooks—Thursday March 31, 1955. Practical cooking lessons. RV MPG for Lyemun Barracks at 1.30 p.m. Dress: No. 2 (Overalls). Band & Corps of Drums Monday March 28, 1955—Corps of Drums only. Individual and massed practice. Band From Drill. RV 11 a.m. at RHQ. Dress: No. 1, Web Belt, Gaiters. Wednesday March 30, 1955—22 Rifle Team and Band only. Dragon Trophy shoot. Musical Rehearsal. RV 10.30 a.m. at RHQ. Dress No. 4. Friday April 1, 1955.—Band only and detailed personnel of Drums. H.K. Jockey Club Engagement (Music rehearsal). RV 9 a.m. at RHQ. Dress No. 4.

HOME GUARD

Training.—Thursday March 31, 1955. Foot & Arms Drill. Parade MPG 6.20 p.m. for tpc to HQ RHKDF. Dress: Overalls, Belt, Beret, Black Boots.

HONGKONG AUXILIARY AIR FORCE

Trade Training.—G.C.I. Teams Radar Operators & Fighter Controllers Friday March 25, 1955—Radar Operators—S.O.C.—5.30 p.m. Fighter Controllers Courses 2 & 3 Lecture room. Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m Saturday March 26, 1955—"C" Team—Radar Station—8.30 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.30 a.m. Sunday March 27, 1955—'B' & 'D' Teams—Radar Station—8.30 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.30 a.m. Fighter Plotters Sunday March 27, 1955—'B' Watch—S.O.C.—9 a.m. (Full Day). Thursday March 31, 1955—A & B Watches S.O.C.—5.30 p.m. Nursing Orderlies Wednesday March 30, 1955—All personnel—Windsor House—Fit/Lt. S.S. Hamler, at 5.30 p.m. Wireless Operators Elementary Tuesday March 29, 1955—As detailed—Murray Barracks—5.30 p.m. Wireless Operators Advanced Tuesday March 29, 1955—As detailed—Flying Wing RAF Kai Tak—5.30 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 5.30 p.m. Equipment Assistants, Saturday March 26, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—Group 3—2 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday March 27, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—Group 4—9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. Tuesday March 29, 1955—RAF Kai Tak—All personnel—9 a.m. (Full Day). Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. Clerks G.D. Thursday March 31, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—9 a.m. (Full Day). Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. M.T. Section Sunday March 27, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—'B' Section—9 a.m. (Full Day). Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. A.T.C. Friday March 25, 1955—All Flight—HKAAF Hangar—6 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 6.45 p.m. Saturday March 26, 1955—As detailed—Kai Tak Tower—12 noon—6 p.m. (Full Day). Sunday March 27, 1955—As detailed—Kai Tak Tower—8 a.m.-2 p.m. (Full Day). Sunday March 27, 1955—As detailed—Kai Tak Tower—12 noon—6 p.m. (Full Day). Auxiliary Police Tuesday March 29, 1955—HQ No. 34 "RAF Police District—6.30 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Clerks P.A. Tuesday March 29, 1955—HQ RHKDF—5.30 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.15 p.m. Groundsrew. Thursday March 24, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—6 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 5.45 p.m. Saturday March 26, 1955—'B' Flight HKAAF Hangar—2 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday March 27, 1955—'A' Flight—HKAAF Hangar—9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m. Monday March 28, 1955—HKAAF Hangar—9 a.m. (Full Day). Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m.

Flying Programme. — Thursday March 24, 1955—All pilots—HQ RHKDF—5.45 p.m. Transport leaves Murray Parade Ground at 5.30 p.m. Saturday March 26, 1955—'B' Flight—HKAAF Hangar—2 p.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 1.45 p.m. Sunday March 27, 1955—'A' Flight—HKAAF Hangar 9 a.m. Transport leaves Salisbury Road at 8.45 a.m.

HONGKONG WOMEN'S AUXILIARY ARMY CORPS

Training.—Monday March 28, 1955—Signal 'B': All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQ LF. Dress: Uniform. Tuesday March 29, 1955—Signal 'A': Personnel as detailed parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQLF. Dress: Uniform. Wednesday March 30, 1955—All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQ RHKDF. Dress: Uniform. Thursday March 31, 1955—All personnel parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQ RHKDF. Dress: Civilian clothes. Friday April 1, 1955. Signals 'A': Personnel as detailed parade 5.15 p.m. MPG for HQLF. Dress: Uniform. Sunday April 3, 1955—First Aid: Personnel as detailed parade 8.30 a.m. MPG for Queen Mary Hospital. Dress: Civilian clothes.

(Sgd) G. H. Calvert, Major,
for Commandant, RHKDF.

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

NINTH RACE MEETING

Saturday, 26th March, 1955.

(To be held under the Rules of the Hong Kong Jockey Club)

THE PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 10 RACES.

The First Bell will be rung at 1.30 p.m. and the First Race run at 2.00 p.m.

The Secretary's Office at Alexandra House will close at 11.45 p.m.

MEMBERS' ENCLOSURE

THE 1955 SETS OF MEMBERS BADGES AND LADY'S BROOCHES WHICH ARE BEING ISSUED ARE NOT VALID UNTIL 1ST APRIL, 1955. THE 1954 SETS ARE VALID UNTIL THEN.

NO PERSON WITHOUT A BADGE WILL BE ADMITTED.

All persons MUST wear their badges prominently displayed throughout the meeting.

Admission Badges at $10.00 each are obtainable through the Secretary on the written or personal introduction of a Member such member to be responsible for all visitors introduced by him.

Tiffins will be obtainable at the Club House if ordered in advance from the No. 1 Boy (Tel. 72811).

NO CHILDREN will be admitted to the Club's premises during the Meeting. For this purpose a Child is a person under the age of seventeen years, Western Standard.

PUBLIC ENCLOSURE

The price of admission will be $3.00 each payable at the Gate.

Any person leaving the Enclosure will be required to pay the requisite fee of $3.00 in order to gain re-admission.

MEALS and REFRESHMENTS will be obtainable in the RESTAURANT.

SERVANTS

Servants must remain in their employer's boxes except for passing through on their duties. They may on no account use the Betting Booths in the Member' Betting Hall.

CASH SWEEPS

Through Cash Sweep Tickets at $20.00 each may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building, (Chater Road), and 5, D'Aguilar Street during normal office hours and until 11.00 a.m. on the day of the Race Meeting.

Particular numbers within the series 1 to 4,000 may be reserved for all race meetings as Through Tickets. Such tickets will be issued consecutively only and the right is reserved by the Stewards to cancel any reservation for Through Tickets for a particular Meeting if it is found that sales may not reach the number reserved in the series 1 to 4,000

Tickets reserved and available but not paid for by 10.00 a.m. on the day preceding the Race Meeting for which they are reserved will be sold and the reservation cancelled for future Meetings.

Tickets over 4,000 will also be issued consecutively but particular numbers cannot be reserved as Through Tickets.

The reservation of any particular number does not confer on registered holder any rights whatsoever unless the ticket bearing the appropriate number is issued to and can be produced by the holder.

The Stewards reserve the right to refuse any subscription also the right to remove any name from subscription lists without stating reasons for their action.

SPECIAL CASH SWEEP

Tickets for the Special Cash Sweep on the Hong Kong Derby scheduled to be run on 9th April, 1955, at $2.00 each, may be obtained from the Cash Sweep Offices at Queen's Building (Chater Road), 5, D'Aguilar Street and 382, Nathan Road.

TOTALISATOR

Backers are advised not to destroy or throw away their tickets until after the "all clear" signal has been exhibited.

ALL WINNING TICKETS AND TICKETS FOR REFUNDS MUST BE PRESENTED FOR PAYMENT AT THE RACE COURSE ON THE DAY TO WHICH THEY REFER, NOT LATER THAN ONE HOUR AFTER THE TIME FOR WHICH THE LAST RACE OF THE DAY HAS BEEN SCHEDULED TO BE RUN.

PAYMENTS WILL NOT BE MADE ON TORN OR DISFIGURED TICKETS.

Bookmakers, Tic Tac men, etc. will not be permitted to operate within the precincts of the Hong Kong Jockey Club.

By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

NOTICE

THE HONG KONG JOCKEY CLUB

The Programmes and Entry Forms for the Easter Race Meeting 1954/55 to be held on Saturday 9th and Monday 11th April, 1955, (weather permitting), may be obtained at the Secretary's Office, Alexandra House; the Club House, Happy Valley; and the Stables, Shan Kwong Road.

Entries close at 12 o'clock NOON on Tuesday 29th March, 1955.

By Order of the Stewards,
H. MISA,
Secretary.

WINTER GARDEN

Proudly quotes the following from

Esquire

The world famous magazine

"... the best Chinese restaurant is the Winter Garden. It is the only strictly Chinese restaurant where you won't need a friend or guide along as interpreter..."

Sept., 1954, Issue, Page 96

Why not come in & try our cooking while you are visiting Hongkong?

THE BEST SHANGHAI & SZECHUAN DISHES
COMPLETE WINE LIST—COURTEOUS SERVICE

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Classified Advertisements
20 WORDS $4.00 for 1 DAY PREPAID
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10 cents PER WORD OVER 20
Births, Deaths, Marriages, Personal $5.00 per insertion not exceeding 25 words, 25 cents each additional word.
ALTERNATE INSERTIONS 10% EXTRA
If not prepaid a booking fee of 50 cents is charged.

WANTED KNOWN

DR. SCHOLL'S Foot Comfort Service, Telephone House (Mezzanine) Hongkong provides the expert attention your feet deserve — by London-qualified Chiropodist.

POSITIONS WANTED

EUROPEAN, trustworthy and reliable, seeks employment as supervisor, caretaker or any other position of trust, salary $600. Box 107, "China Mail."

PREMISES TO LET

CHINA FLEET CLUB. Three excellent sites are available on the roof to be hired for the erection of Commercial Advertising Neon Signs. The sites are 85 feet above ground level and 160 feet, 135 feet and 124 feet in length. Interested firms may inspect the sites and obtain particulars by arrangement with the Manager, Telephone No. 74029. Offers should be forwarded in writing to reach the Manager, China Fleet Club, Hong Kong, by 1st April, 1955.

MUSICAL

NEW LPS Dmitry Kabalevsky Taras' Family, by Marinsky Theatre Artists, Tschaikowsky' Second Piano Concerto by Tatiana Nikolayeva, Stalin Gold Medalist; Five Centuries of Choral Music, Brandenburg Concertos, Bouquet of Vivaldi Concerti, Bloch Israel Symphony from D. Esses, 4A, Des Voeux Road, room 1, 2nd floor, telephone 30186.

FOR SALE

COLUMBIA COPPERPLATE Drawing Pencils. "HB" & "B" $32 per gross $3 per dozen, 30 cents each. Obtainable at "S. C. M. Post."

STAMPS

STAMP ALBUMS — "Collection Builder" series. New stock now available. $3. From South China Morning Post Ltd., Wyndham Street and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

SOMETHING EXCLUSIVE. Collectors packets of assorted stamps. From 20 cents per packet upwards. An entirely new series. South China Morning Post Ltd., Wyndham Street and Salisbury Road, Kowloon.

NOTICE

CHINA FLEET CLUB

Three excellent sites are available on the roof to be hired for the erection of Commercial Advertising Neon Signs.

The sites are 85 feet above ground level and 160 feet, 135 feet and 124 feet in length.

Interested firms may inspect the sites and obtain particulars by arrangement with the Manager, Telephone No. 74029.

Offers should be forwarded in writing to reach the Manager, China Fleet Club, Hong Kong, by 1st April, 1955.

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL
STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY
QUIS NOS SEPARABIT
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ROUND TRIP TO JAPAN, APRIL 1955.

Dep:	Hongkong	6 p.m.	18th	April
Arr:	Yokohama	8 a.m.	22nd	April
Dep:	Yokohama	4 p.m.	24th	April
Arr:	Kobe	Noon	25th	April
Dep:	Kobe	10 a.m.	27th	April
Arr:	Hongkong	Noon	30th	April

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Russians Trying To Cancel Or Reduce Orders

London, Mar. 24.

Russian trade officials today pursued their efforts to cancel or modify contracts worth several million pounds sterling placed last year with British firms.

A delegation from Moscow is believed to have visited a North of England textile machinery firm which is making worsted and woollen carding machines for Russia.

Early last year the firm's sales director came back from Moscow with a seven million sterling contract for his own organisation and other North of England factories.

NO COMMENT

The firm declined today to confirm or deny that the Russian had visited the works.

The contracts the Russians are attempting to cut in Britain affect textile machinery, furniture making machinery, television equipment, rayon yarn and dairy machinery.

They are trying to reduce the amounts of the contracts by a total of about four million sterling.

British business circles believe this springs from the recent change of regime in the Kremlin and the new accent on heavy instead of light industry.

They said it is significant that the contracts being cut are all associated with the production in Russia of consumer goods.

There are no reports of trouble with the substantial orders the Russians placed for industrial machine tools.

Other West European countries, according to reports, are also experiencing difficulty with Soviet contracts from consumer goods. It is now impossible to sell goods of this kind to Soviet buyers.

Businessmen here emphasise that the Russians are not defaulting on their contracts. In some cases the contracts allowed loopholes which enable the Soviets to reduce them legitimately. In others, the Russians are apparently willing to pay penalties.—Reuter.

Ike's Budget May Be Balanced

Washington, Mar. 24.

The Secretary of the Treasury, Mr George M. Humphrey, said yesterday that there is a "very good opportunity" that the Eisenhower Administration will have its first balanced budget in the 12 months starting on July 1, 1956.

His statement was the first such clear prediction that the Republican Administration might have a balanced budget to offer the voters in the 1956 presidential campaign. Heretofore Administration officials have spoken of their "hopes" for a balanced budget.

Mr Humphrey, who appeared before a Senate Appropriations Sub-Committee, said he hopes this year's Federal deficit can be pared down somewhat below the $4,500,000,000 estimated in January.

He said he believes the deficit in the fiscal year starting next July 1 will be about $2,500,000,000. That is about the same as the estimate by President Eisenhower in his January budget message.

Then he added that, barring "untoward" international events, there is "a very good opportunity" for a balanced budget in the following fiscal year, beginning July 1, 1956.—United Press.

Bagdad, Mar. 24.

The Iraq Government today signed a new agreement covering oil prices with the British owned Iraq Petroleum Company and its associated companies, it was officially announced.

The agreement increases the Iraq Government royalties by about seven shillings a ton. It also means that Iraq's revenue from oil for 1954 will be increased by £10,500,000.—Reuter.

NOTICE

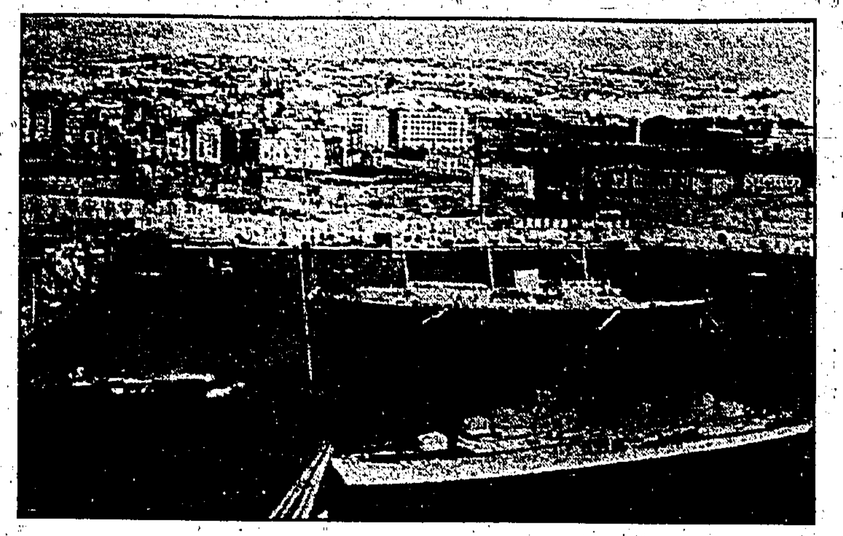
HONG KONG LAWN BOWLS ASSOCIATION

Notice is hereby given that the Annual General Meeting of the Hong Kong Lawn Bowls Association will be held in the Board Room of the South China Morning Post, Ltd. (by kind permission) on Friday, 25th March, 1955 at 5.45 p.m.

(1) To confirm minutes of last Annual General Meeting.
(2) Presentation of "Hong" Pairs Competition prizes.
(3) Adoption of Balance Sheets and Accounts.
(4) Election of Officers.
(5) League entries.
(6) Any other business.

R. B. MARSHALL,
Secretary.

Britannia In Harbour With Combined Fleet



The scene as the royal yacht Britannia anchored in Grand Harbour, Malta, at the conclusion of the Combined Fleet Exercise in the Mediterranean. In the foreground is a Daring Class destroyer. — Central Press Photo.

CANADA BUILDING A-STATION

Ottawa, Mar. 24.

The Canadian Trade Minister, Mr C. D. Howe, announced today that Canada's first atomic station to produce electricity would be built jointly by the Government and the Ontario Hydro-electric Power Commission, at a cost of about 15 million dollars (£5,400,000).

He told the House of Commons that the experimental station would be built in Ontario on a site to be chosen by the Ontario Hydro and Atomic Energy of Canada Limited which runs the Chalk River, Ontario, atomic project.

Mr Howe said the contract for construction of the reactor would be awarded to the Canadian General Electric Company. It was expected that construction would be completed by mid 1958.—Reuter.

Bare Midriff Controversy

Singapore, Mar. 24.

SINGAPORE Moslems may view the bare midriff of pretty film star Salmah Binte Ibrahim — but Malayan Moslems must not look, the Film Censor ruled here.

The censor said that Singapore audiences were more "cosmopolitan," and not likely to be shocked by the scene in the Malayan Film Production, "The Magic Fan" with its setting in ancient Egypt—and its costumes to match.

Moslems in the Federation of Malaya at once objected. "What is bad for Moslems in one territory is bad in another," religious leaders maintained — and they are asking that bare midriffs be banned in Singapore.—France-Presse.

RED SAILORS HELD IN FORMOSA

Washington, Mar. 24.

The fate of 21 Soviet sailors, at present held in Formosa by the Chinese Nationalist Government, is still uncertain, the US State Department announced here today.

The sailors, from the Soviet oil-tanker Tuapse, captured by the Chinese Nationalist Navy last June off Formosa, have requested political asylum in the United States.

The US Department of Justice now accepts the view of Secretary of State, Mr John Foster Dulles, that these men should be allowed entry to the US.

However, it is thought probable here that the American authorities are unwilling to permit these sailors to enter the US, if there is any question that later some of them may demand repatriation.

Conversations continue between the US and Nationalist China representatives at Taipei.—France-Presse.

WOMEN WITH FLATS AT A PREMIUM IN ITALY

No Love Required In Marriage Market

Rome, Mar. 24.

The Italian woman who is plain, over forty and unmarried or a widow does not sadly resign herself to lonely old age.

She advertises for a husband—and stands a good chance of getting one if she can offer a dowry, extraordinary cooking skill or, preferably, a flat.

Advertising for a husband or a wife has become a widespread practice among middle-aged Italians, who find its anonymity preferable to Marriage Bureaus and Lonely Hearts Clubs.

Every day, particularly on Sundays, newspapers carry columns of advertisements under the titles: "Marriages." The word "love" never appears in these columns.

The advertisements are briskly business-like.

"ONE ADVERTISEMENT

"Tall, 33-year-old unmarried lady, owns flat, would marry distinguished, serious young man of good position," reads one insertion in a Sunday newspaper.

This advertisement was anonymous, like all the others. Nothing would be more degrading to Italians than to allow friends or relations to know that they were forced to advertise for a mate.

Another advertisement says: "Distinguished, chaste, pretty woman, dowry 5,000,000 Lire (£2,875 sterling), owns furnished home and car, would marry doctor or member of another profession aged 40-45."

Still another: "Serious, 45, fairly good job, would marry elderly member of one of the professions, or pensioner, even war invalid."

A widow, "aged 35, distinguished, alone, attractive, most chaste, owner of luxuriously furnished apartment," advertised for a husband, "aged at most 45, serious, cultured, good income."

TERRIFIED

Seriousness and a solid income are what most of the women demand. They seem terrified of falling into the hands of handsome, penniless rogues.

On the other hand, the women who advertise know that they must, to put it bluntly, pay for a husband. The higher the price they can offer, the greater the chances of getting one.

A recent advertisement in the Rome newspaper Il Messaggero, said: "Widow, 38, attractive, job as clerk, owner of flat with three rooms in central part of Rome, would marry civil servant, even widower without children, maximum seriousness."

(Flats in the centre of Rome are far more valuable than those in the suburbs.)

Another recent advertisement was placed by a "pretty, virtuous, unmarried woman of excellent family." She had two flats to offer.

Flats are of major importance in a nation which still has a housing shortage. Women without flats are at a disadvantage in the marriage market. But shopowners, dress and hatmakers, teachers, midwives and secretaries frequently advertise, probably with success, for the usual serious men with comfortable incomes.

Bargaining over dowries and incomes is probably shrewd and lively when advertiser and aspiring husband eventually meet.

Masculine advertisers are also exacting in their demands.

WARM-HEARTED

A "tall, warm-hearted, high-grade bank clerk" recently advertised for a "suitably well-built, unsophisticated, property-owning young woman with dowry."

A "distinguished, 41-year-old merchant," wanted "an honest, 29-33-year-old woman, tall, handsome, strong physique, preferably with dowry."

Families often advertise for husbands for their unmarried daughters. This happens with parents who, conforming to the highest Italian tradition, force their daughters to live cloistered lives—until they suddenly discover that they have reached an age when marriage is difficult.

Luckily, for 100 Lire (½d) a word, they can put an anonymous advertisement in the newspapers. And no one need know that the shy girl did not meet her elderly but distinguished husband at a romantic Riviera resort the previous summer.

One such couple announced: "Parents, upper class, would marry only daughter, 31, distinguished, university degree, pretty, irreproachable conduct, dowry 10,000,000 Lire (£2,750) as well as future inheritance, with high-ranking civil servant, maximum age 42."

Advertisements like these become the butt of music-hall jokes.

The marriage rate in Italy fluctuates between 20,000 and 50,000 a month, with fewer during the summer and more in autumn and winter.

LAST HOPE

Though the newspaper marriages columns provide only a minute proportion of those radiant couples, they serve a purpose of the highest importance. For they are the last hope of many lonely people.

Despite the unblushing references to property, dowries, and incomes, there is a curious pathos about many of the advertisements.

This one, for instance: "45-year-old widow of aristocratic birth, attractive appearance, religious, kindly, heiress, would marry man of property, even crippled."

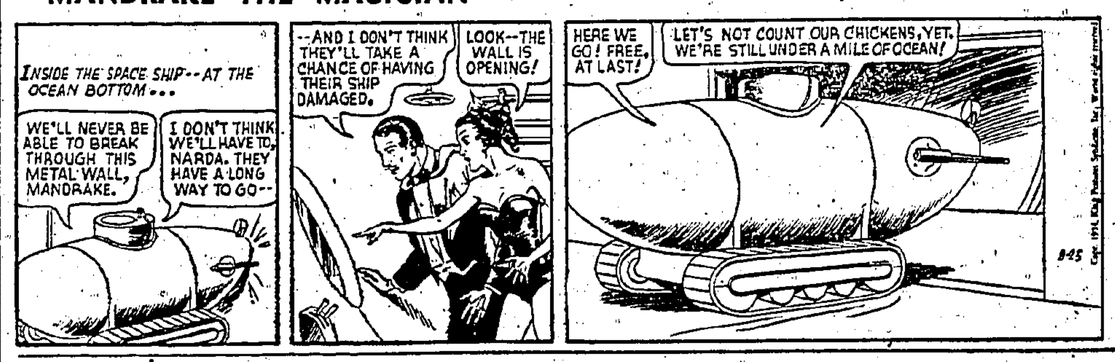
One advertisement which shocked regular readers of the marriage columns appeared recently in Rome paper.

A 34-year-old woman wanted a wealthy husband, even a widower. But instead of a dowry she offered "pretty legs and excellent culinary skill."

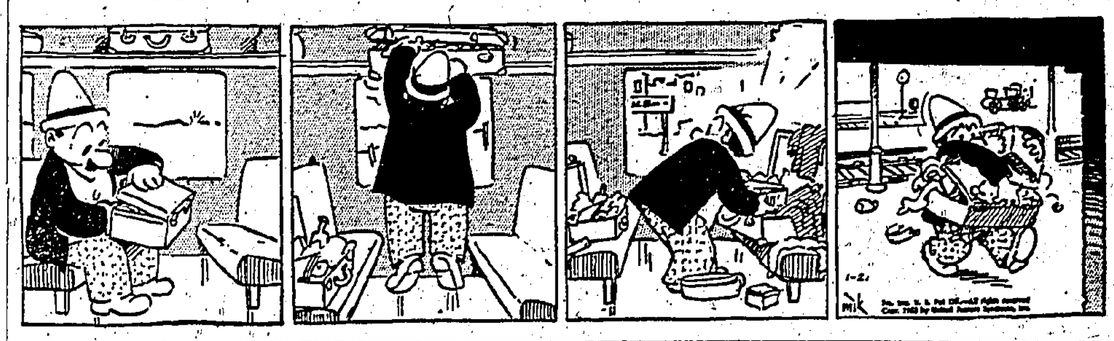
Furthermore, she hinted that candidates would have to be brave men, because she described herself as a "disillusioned anthropocentric."

In other words, she no longer believed that Man was the beginning and end of all things.—China Mail Special.

MANDRAKE THE MAGICIAN — By Lee Falk and Phil Davis

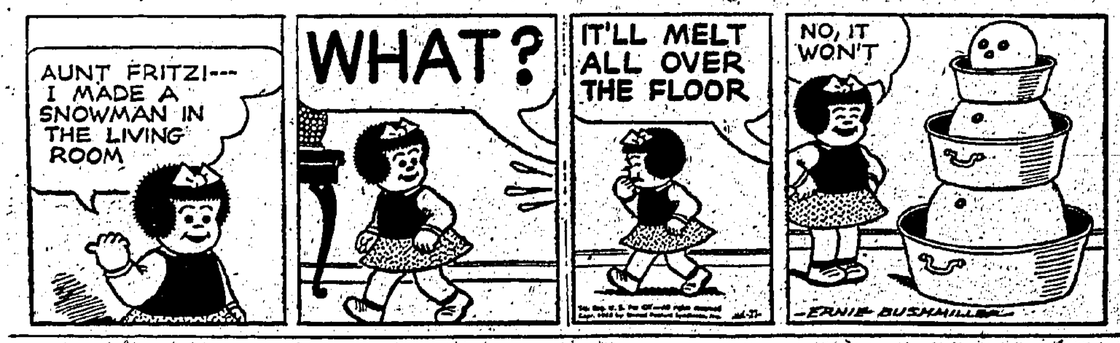


FERD'NAND — By Mik



"THE JAM THAT MADE TASMANIA FAMOUS"

NANCY — By Ernie Bushmiller



BLACK MAGIC
ASSORTED
CHOCOLATES

JOHNNY HAZARD — By Frank Robbins

...this situation calls for a
San Miguel

TRADE and COMMERCE SECTION

NEW YORK STOCK MARKET

All Sections Advance

New York, Mar. 24.

Prices on the stock exchange pushed higher again in active dealings.

All departments joined in advance. Gains throughout the list ranged from 1 to 3 points with a number of issues showing much wider improvements.

Atoms, electrons, a stock split and good earnings bolstered the market today. The rise, coupled with the advance in the past two days, added more than $4,000,000,000 to the list.

Companies connected with atomic power plants were in demand from the start of trading. The market was so hectic in the first hour that reporting tickers ran late for a period of 24 minutes.

Chrysler gave the market a boost when it revealed that earnings in the first two months of this year exceeded for all of 1954. It said first quarter output will set a record for the company.

The lull in the Senate market investigation also helped trading considerably. The general market average registered a gain of 1.27 to 154.23.

Transactions today totalled 3,170,000 shares, compared with 2,730,000 shares yesterday.

MOTORS UP

In the motor group, Chrysler ran up 3 points to $73 on its good earnings forecast. General Motors was up ⅝ to $95½.

In the atomic power plant section, Babacock and Wilcox, a recent strong favourite, moved up 1¾ points to $111. Combustion Engineering spurted 5¾ points to $78½.

Baldwin-Lima-Hamilton led the market in turnover with 75,900 shares changing hands. The stock closed with a new gain of 1¼ points to $16⅝. The Company jumped into atomic limelight with projected plans for an atom-powered locomotive. Bath Iron Works ran up 4 points at one time on reports of "an atom-powered destroyer." It finished at $56, up $1.

Steel shares were up fractionally.

Texas Gulf Producing highlighted in its section. It was up 4⅞ points to $90⅞. Other oil shares also met demand.

Of the 1,223 issues traded, 725 closed higher, 288 closed lower and 210 held unchanged. New highs were made by 85 stocks and 13 made new lows.

The New York Stock Exchange bond volume was $3,160,000.

The American Stock Exchange volume was 980,000 shares.

YESTERDAY'S PRICES

Alden Inc. Acy.	$ 21
Allied Chemicals	96¾
Allis Chalmers	78⅞
American Airline	25⅞
American Metal	59¼
American Smelting	46¾
American Tel. & Tel.	180½
American Tobacco "B"	66⅞
Anaconda Copper	57
Armco Steel	77½
Armour	14½
Balwin-Lima-Hamilton	16⅝
Baltimore & Ohio	43¼
Bendix Aviation Corp.	57¼
Benguet Cons.	1⅛
Bethlehem Steel	133
Boeing Airplane	80¾
Canadian Pacific Railway	30
Case (J. I.) Co.	16¾
Chase National Bank	50⅝
Chile Copper	—
Chrysler Motors	73
Commercial Credit	51¼
Commonwealth Elec.	39⅝
Consolidated Edison	—
Continental Steel	29⅜
Corn Products	80⅝
Crane Co.	44½
Cuban American Sugar	17⅞
Curtis Wright	22⅜
Dupont de Nemours	169¼
Eastman Kodak	71¼
General Electric	51
General Foods	80¾
General Motors	95½
Gillette Safety Razor	70
Goodrich (B. F.) Co.	65½
Goodyear Tire & Rubber	60⅝
Homstake Mining Co.	43⅞
International Business Machines	398½
International Harvester	37⅞
International Nickel	64
International Paper	88¾
International Tel & Tel	25⅞
John-Manville Co.	88½
Kennecott Copper	110⅞
Lockheed Aircraft	51⅛
Leows Incorp.	18⅜
Lone Star Cement Co.	59¾
Minnesota Mining	92
Montgomery Ward	79
National Cash Register "A"	43½
National Distillers	21⅝
National Lead	61¾
New York Central	38¼
Otis Elevators	63
Pacific Gas & Electric	46⅞
Pacific Western Oil	—
Pan American Airways	18⅝
Paramount Pictures	38⅛
Philips Petroleum	77½
Pittsburgh Plate Glass	66¾
Radio Corporation	43⅞
Reo Motors	32½
Republic Steel	85½
Shell Oil Co.	81
Sinclair Oil	52⅝
Socony Vacuum	54⅞
Southern Railway (Com.)	65½
Standard Brands	39⅛
Standard Oil of California	79⅝
Standard Oil of Indiana	45⅝
Standard Oil of New Jersey	113⅞
Stokley-Van Camp	17⅝
Studebaker-Packard Corp.	13
Swift & Co.	49½
Texas Co.	81¼
Union Carbide	85⅝
Union Pacific Railway	153¼
United Gas Imp	78¾
U.S. Gypsum	224
U. S. Line Co.	22⅛
U.S. Rubber	42⅜
United States Smelting	57
U.S. Steel	80⅜
Warner Bros.	19
Westinghouse Electric	77⅜
Woolworth	49⅞

—United Press.

COLONIAL DEVELOPMENT

GATT Concession To Britain Will Help Her Hardship Cases

London, Mar. 24.

Britain's new right under GATT to give preferential treatment, in cases of hardship, to colonial products entering the UK market is an important victory. Those who argued that export outlets must be provided for new colonial industries have won their point.

That crusading body, the Empire Industries Association and British Empire League, return to this theme in the current issue of their monthly Bulletin, which went to press before it was learned from Geneva that their argument had been conceded by a majority of GATT countries.

Britain's responsibility to the colonies, they say, does not end with the provision of funds for development and welfare. A colony which has potential productive capacity but few or no capital resources can by means of wise expenditure be enabled to produce goods which are needed both for its own use and for export. The difficulty, however, has always been the profitable marketing of these goods in competition with more highly developed countries.

EXAMPLE

The Association and League cite the example of lime oil. Up to last summer, this West Indian product was protected in the UK market by quantitive restrictions on competing imports. But then imports of lime oil were freed from control and the UK market was thrown open to the more competitive Mexican product.

Mexican lime oil is of a somewhat lower quality than the West Indian product, but there is five times more of it.

In early August last year the price of West Indian lime oil was 39s per lb. It is now down to 28s 6d., but is still being undersold by the Mexican product which is selling at 23s 6d.

CANNOT COMPETE

As the West Indian producers cannot compete with their Mexican rivals' price, the industry cannot survive without help from the United Kingdom, say the Association and League. And up to now this has not been forthcoming.

"If this process is to be followed in all cases where colonial produce finds itself in competition with foreign produce," they add, "the money which is paid for the development of colonial production is virtually taken out of the pockets of the colonial producer.

"Unless the Government is prepared to take some action to preserve the fruits of this expenditure the money might just as well remain unused."

World Cotton Markets

New York, Mar. 24.

Cotton futures today see-sawed narrowly in quiet dealings but showed an overtone of steadiness most of the time.

Routine buying for domestic mill account and local buying hedging and liquidations.

Closing around the day's best levels the list showed net gains of 6 to 8 points. Opening prices were off 2 to up 2 points. New Orleans closed up 3 to 7 points.

Liverpool brokers bought in a small way at the opening. Leading spot interests also bought around 5,000 bales in the May/July deliveries after the opening. This demand acted to brace the general list and restrain fresh selling.

The weekly loan figures showed producer redemptions still running ahead of impoundings.

Trading volumes and open interests in the Exchange today were:

Month	Volume	Open interest
May	27,000	798,800
July	30,400	852,800
Oct.	8,700	205,900
Dec.	11,100	243,900
May	4,900	140,800
July	4,900	16,100
Total	91,800	2,487,000 bales

NEW YORK

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	34.45n
May	33.80
July	34.14
October	34.09
December	34.19
March	34.20
May	34.31
July	33.95

NEW ORLEANS

Prices of futures closed today as follows:

Spot	33.75
May	33.74-75
July	—
October	34.06
December	34.18
March	34.26
May	34.30
July	33.92

LIVERPOOL

Future closings, American Middling, in pence per lb. were as follows:

Mar./Apr.	31.29
May/June	31.29-30
July/Aug.	30.93
Oct./Nov.	30.84
Dec./Jan.	30.80

SAO PAULO

Future closings, in cruzeiros per kilo were as follows:

Apr.	28.00
May	27.90
July	28.00
Oct.	29.50
Dec.	29.95
Mar.	30.10

In the United States, the average price of 15/16 middling at 10 designed spot markets was 33.73 cents. Sales at these centres totalled 10,813 bales.—United Press.

LIBERALISATION OF TRADE

Paris, Mar. 24.

The members of the Organisation for European Economic Co-operation (OEEC) today reaffirmed their will "to work for the strengthening and extension of trade liberalisation."

The OEEC Council issued such a declaration after examining the relationship between the organisations' code of liberalisation—one of whose aims is the elimination of trade barriers and quotas throughout the world—and the rules of the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT).—Reuter.

Exchange Rates

Business was done in the local unofficial exchange market this morning at the following rates:—

U.S. dollar (per $1)	5.80
Sterling notes (per £1)	15.59
Indonesian rupiah (per 100)	14.80
Siam ticals (per 100)	27.60
Singapore (Straits)	1.80
Indo-China piastres (per 100)	9.27

—United Press.

New York Sugar Market

New York, Mar. 24.

World No. 4 sugar futures closed 1 to 6 points higher with sales of 371 contracts.

Domestic No. 6 sugar futures closed unchanged to 5 points higher with sales of 483 contracts.

Both markets continued to reflect the strengthening raw situation and a broadening inquiry from refiners and commission houses. Future closings:

Contract No. 4 (world)	
May	3.31
July	3.32
September	3.33
March	3.29
May	3.32
Spot—(cents per lb. fob Cuba)	3.30
Contract No. 6	
May	5.45
July	5.58
September	5.56
November	5.56
March	5.37
May	5.42
Spot—(cents per lb. cif NY ex-duty)	5.35

—United Press.

London Foreign Exchange

London, Mar. 24.

New York	2.79¼-2.79-5/16
Montreal	—
Amsterdam	10.63⅝-10.63⅝
Brussels	139.70-139.72½
Oslo	20.01½-20.01¾
Paris	977⅝-977½
Stockholm	14.54⅞-14.55⅛
West Marks	11.79⅝-11.80⅞
Zurich	12.23-12.28¼

Others were unchanged.—United Press.

New York Foreign Exchange

New York, Mar. 24.

Canada	$1.01-13/16	
England—official	2.79-5/16	
unofficial	2.68-2.70	
Holland	.2634	
Canadian dollar rates	buyers	sellers
Spot:		
close	1.01-25/32	1.01-27/32
high	1.01-25/32	1.01-27/32
low	1.01-25/32	1.01-27/32
Future:		
30-day	1.01-28/32	1.01-29/32
90-day	1.01-28/32	1.01-29/32
6-month	1.01-28/32	1.01-29/32

—United Press.

LONDON METAL PRICES

London, Mar. 24.

All metal markets were steady today. Prices closed today in sterling per long ton as follows:

	buyers	sellers
Tin spot	713½	714½
3-month	715	716
Copper spot	354	355
3-month	345	346
Lead Mar.	103⅝	103½
June	103⅜	103½
Zinc Mar.	88	83½
June	86¾	87

—United Press.

NEW YORK METAL PRICES

New York, Mar. 24.

Prices of metal futures closed today in cents per lb. as follows:

Lead	Mar.	14.15b
	Apr.	14.18b
Tin	Mar.	90.50b
	Apr.	90.25b
Zinc	Mar.	10.33b
	Apr.	10.35b
Copper	Mar.	39.25b
	Apr.	39.00b

—United Press.

World Rubber Markets

Singapore, Mar. 24.

The rubber market was quiet with little inclination to trade. There was more buying towards the close. Future closings were:

No. 1 rubber per lb.	Apr.	87¾-87⅞
	May	87⅞-87½
	June	unquoted
No. 2 rubber per lb.	Apr.	86¾-87
No. 3		85¾-86
No. 4		85-85½
Spot rubber unbaled		87¼-87¾
Blanket crepe		79¾-80¼
No. 1 pale crepe		82¾-83¼

NEW YORK

Futures today closed 10 points lower to 10 points higher with sales of 247 contracts.

Switching of September contracts at 35 points under July provided one of the main trading features. Toward the close Wall Street commission houses were accredited buyers in December. Dealers said the market showed little reaction to the overnight news about Congressional approval of the sale of 24 out of the operations.

The spot market slowed after a moderate forenoon business involving May one sheets at 30⅞ cents and June one at 30¾ cents a pound. Spot No. 1 Rss spot were quoted at 31¼ cents nominal. Future closings:

May	31.30
July	30.75
Sept.	30.40
Dec.	30.10
Mar.	29.75
May	29.30

LONDON

The market was very steady. No. 1 Rss spot were quoted at 26⅛ pence per lb. Prices:

No. 1 Rss spot	26⅛-26⅜
Settlement house term:	
May	26⅞-26
June	25¾-25⅞
July/September	25⅝-25¾
October/December	25⅛-25¼
January/March	24⅞-25⅛
General markets, cif basis, ports:	
April	25⅝-25⅞
May	25⅝-25¾
June	25⅜-25⅝
Estate crepe thick April	27½
thin	27¼

AMSTERDAM

The market was steady. Prices closed today in guilders per kilogram, CIF April as follows:

No. 1 rubber	2.53	paid
No. 2 rubber	2.82	buyers
No. 3 rubber	2.50	buyers
No. 1 crepe	2.67	buyers

—United Press.

Two-Way Trade Urged

Melbourne, Mar. 24.

The Victoria wheat and wool producers' conference here today urged the Australian Government to send a trade delegation to Communist countries, Japan and Pakistan, in an attempt to open two-way trade.

Such trade would relieve Australia of surplus agricultural products such as wheat and would balance her overseas payments.

The conference also passed a resolution expressing its alarm at "repeated threats" of the Federal Agriculture Minister, Mr John McEwen, to withdraw from the geneal Agreement on Tariffs and and Trade.—Reuter.

Filipino Trade Delegation

Bonn, Mar. 24.

The West German Government is working out an extensive programme for the Philippines trade delegation, expected here next week, to negotiate the first post-war trade agreement between both countries.

Government officials said today the Philippines delegation, led by Senator F. Verano, would be able to see West German industrial plants and meet influential people.

The delegation is expected to stay in West Germany for about three weeks.—Reuter.

TODAY'S SHARE PRICES

(From Our Correspondent)

Business done on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this morning amounted to $270,559. Noon quotations and the morning's transactions:

SHARES	BUYERS	SELLERS	SALES
BANKS			
HK Bank		1560	5 @ 1550
INSURANCES			
Union	965		
Lombard	49½		
Underwriters	10.20		
SHIPPING			
Asia Nav.	74c		
DOCKS ETC.			
K Wharf	66		
Dock		24.70	
Provident (Old)		12	
Wheelock	7.15		
LAND, ETC.			
HK Hotel	17	17.20	1500 @ 17.10
HK Land	65	65½	150 @ 65; 500 @ 65.50
S'hai Land	85c		400 @ 85c
Realty	2	2.05	1000 @ 2.01¼
UTILITIES			
Tram	20.20	20.40	400 @ 20.50; 1000 @ 20.30
Star Ferry		144	
Y'mati Ferry	110	114	
C. Light (O)		17.90	500 @ 17.80; 500 @ 17.70; 200 @ 17.80
C. Light (N)	14	4.20	
Electric	35	35¾	2000 @ 35.50
Telephone	31¼	31¾	2000 @ 31.50
INDUSTRIALS			
Cement		26.90	
STORES, ETC.			
Dairy		22.00	
(N)		20.80	125 @ 20.80
COTTONS			
Textiles		6.10	
MISCELLANEOUS			
Yangtsze	6.10		
Allied	4.85	4.925	1200 @ 4.90

HONGKONG STOCK EXCHANGE

PROFIT-TAKING CHECKS MARKET RISE

By A Special Correspondent

Share prices continued to advance on the Hongkong Stock Exchange this week until yesterday when profit-taking set in cutting back the gains and leaving the market roughly steady on last Thursday's closing rates.

There were some notable exceptions, however. Wheelocks and Allied made good gains and land issues were again prominent with Humphreys leading the advance.

The market closed at noon yesterday as a mark of respect to the late Mr Lau Tak-po, Managing Director of the Hongkong and Yaumati Ferry Co Ltd and a member of the Stock Exchange whose affiliations with Ice House Street go back to pre-war days when Mr Lau was a member of the old Hongkong Sharebrokers' Association.

Wheelocks and Allied advanced smartly on the news that the British Treasury had approved the transfer of the control of the Gas Company (70 per cent of the shares of which are now held by the two Wheelock Marden Companies) from London to Hongkong. Quoted at a quiet $7.10 last Thursday, Wheelocks sold yesterday at $7.30 before closing at $7.20, while Allieds moved up from $4.175 to $4.95.

The market is also expecting the announcement of a good dividend by Allied Investors for their first year of operations and this has given a spur to the demand for these shares.

HUMPHREYS RISE

Mr Marden's disclosure in the Press that a £250,000 plant for manufacturing coal and oil gas is to be built in the Colony foreshadows an increase in the Gas Company's capital but so far the Wheelocks Chairman has refused to make any statement on this question.

Humphreys moved up almost $2 on the week on the announcement of their new one for one issue at $10 a share to finance their flat-building programme. Quoted last week at buyers $22.20, they sold on Wednesday at $23.20 and buyers were offering an extra 90 cents yesterday without attracting sellers.

Other land issues were prominent. Hotels continued to advance largely, I believe, on the revelation of their healthy assets in the balance sheet. Last Thursday they were $16.20 and yesterday they started at $17.40 before easing to $17.10. Hongkong Lands were slightly better on the week closing at $65. Realties also appear slightly firmer at $2.025.

OUT OF FAVOUR

Banks, having made their bonus issue, are temporarily out of favour and there was one sale yesterday of 12 at $1,550—$25 down on the week.

In the utilities, after a week of some good rises, profit-taking set in yesterday sending prices down slightly. Cements and Nanyang Cottons were also slightly lower.

Until yesterday there was moderate activity on the market and buying interest appeared to be fairly well spread. Utilities appear to be in a temporary eclipse while investors are concentrating on a number of more attractive issues. It will be noticed, incidentally, that buyers have advanced their bids for Hongkong and Kowloon Wharves another dollar.

The raw rubber price in Singapore is lower on the week but share prices here are not showing much change.

MESSAGERIES MARITIMES
P.O. Box 53 Queen's Building Tel: 26651

FAST PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE
"VIETNAM" .... sailing Apr. 9th
"CAMBODGE" .... sailing May 20th

FAST FREIGHT SERVICE
"ANADYR" .... sailing Mar. 27th
"MEINAM" .... sailing Apr. 21st

P&O B.I. E&A COMPANIES

PENINSULAR & ORIENTAL S.N. CO.

PASSENGER/FREIGHT SERVICE

Outwards	Leaves London	Due Hongkong
"CANTON"	—	4th April
"CHUSAN"	—	16th April
"CARTHAGE"	30th March	2nd May
"CORFU"	27th April	30th May

Via Southampton, Port Said, Aden, Bombay, Colombo, Penang & Singapore

Homewards	Leaves Hongkong	Due London
"CANTON"	8th April	9th May
*"CHUSAN"	2nd May	30th May
"CARTHAGE"	6th May	6th June
"CORFU"	3rd June	5th July

Via Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay, Aden, Port Said & London

* Also calls Marseilles.

FREIGHT SERVICE

"SHILLONG" due 7th Apr. from U.K. & Straits; loads 8th Apr. for Kobe & Yokohama
"SURAT" loads 14/15th Apr. for S'pore, P. Swettenham, Penang, Colombo, Aden, Port Said, Genoa, Marseilles, Havre, London, Antwerp, Rotterdam & Hamburg
"SUNDA" due 25th Apr. from U.K. & Straits; loads 26th Apr. for Kobe & Yokohama

With liberty to call at Belawan before or after Straits Ports and at Bombay if inducement offers.

Tanks available for carriage of Oil in Bulk. Space for refrigerated cargo. Limited Passenger accommodation

BRITISH INDIA S.N. CO., LTD.

"SANGOLA" due 26th Mar. from Japan; sails 27th Mar. for Singapore, Penang, Rangoon & Calcutta
"SANTHIA" due 28th Mar. from Calcutta, Rangoon & Straits; sails 29th Mar. for Japan
"WARLA" due 10th Apr. from Japan; sails 11th Apr. for Singapore, Rangoon, Calcutta & Chittagong

P. & O./B. I. JOINT SERVICE

"OKHLA" due 29th Mar. from Japan; sails 30th Mar. for Singapore, Colombo, Karachi, Basrah, Khorramshahr & Kuwait.
"OBRA" due 6th Apr. from Japan; sails 7th Apr. for Singapore, Penang, Colombo, Bombay & Karachi
"OZARDA" due 8th Apr. from Bombay & Straits; sails 9th Apr. for Japan

EASTERN & AUSTRALIAN S.S. CO., LTD.

"NANKIN" In Port from Australia; sails 26th Mar. for Japan
"NANKIN" due 19th Apr. from Japan; sails 20th Apr. for Sandakan, Brisbane, Sydney, Melbourne & Adelaide

All vessels have liberty to call at any ports on or off the route & the route & sailing are subject to change or amendment with or without notice.

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VISION OF LONDON

FAINT and faded, like an old photograph, there lay at the back of Ellen's mind a vision of London. A blurred picture, lacking in detail, but sometimes all the more exciting for that.

There were days when Ellen, surveying through half-closed eyes the sooty skyline of the northern city where she lived and worked, could make believe the towers and turrets and steeples that she saw were indeed London. She could pretend, in those precious few seconds, that she had arrived where she wanted to be.

Then she opened her eyes and the dream at once faded. What she had seen in her moment of vision as Buckingham Palace, became again the white facade of the local shopping centre; what, instants before, had been Big Ben, was town hall clock across the square, again.

FITTING IN

ELLEN longed for London, and there seemed no hope of her reaching the wonderful city she dreamed about.

In the northern town she worked as a typist. She had overcome the fact that she was an orphan. She had made friends for herself and, shyly edging in, secured her place in the cautiously graded society of the town. But still she clung to her vision.

Moors rose sharply south of the town, a splendour of purple at the right season and leased expensively for grouse. These, and 200 miles of country beyond, stood between Ellen and London.

TICKET TO LONDON

One day recently Ellen, who had dwelt so long with her problem of how to equate her longing for London with the hard geographical facts, went to her office as usual.

She worked the day through and at the end of it she strode away as she had done every night for years. Only this night, instead of making for her lodgings, she headed towards the station.

At the station she bought a platform ticket. A train paused fretting, on its way to London. Ellen boarded it.

At the Clerkenwell court in London next morning Ellen, a fair-haired woman of 30, who looked astounded to find herself where she did, in the dock, pleaded not guilty to travelling with intent not to pay the fare from the north.

A LITTLE DIFFICULT

OR rather, she pleaded guilty, but said she meant to pay some time, which the magistrate, Mr Frank Powell, interpreted as a not guilty plea.

The story of Ellen's adventure was soon told, and the magistrate asked her: 'Would you like to tell me why you came to London?"

"That would be a little difficult," Ellen said calmly, "because I don't know."

"You'd worked in the North? You were working when you left?"

"Yes," Ellen said, "I'd often thought about coming to London, though."

The magistrate sent her to see the probation officer, who presently brought her back.

DISCOVERY

"SHE was an orphan," the probation officer said, "and was sent to foster-parents. They died when she was a child.

"She was living in lodgings in the North and working as a typist. She says she has a month's pay due, at £5 a week. She has been under a doctor for her nerves, but she was told no treatment was necessary. She says she can't explain why she came to London, that it was an impulse."

"I feel there must be some kind of trouble," the magistrate said. "I shall remand her and ask for a medical report."

"Yes, sir," Ellen said demurely, and she went away, looking a little puzzled, but not altogether displeased. Her situation was peculiar, said her look, but the lure of London would not nag at her again. She had discovered London. This was it.

HK Government Appointments

The following Government appointments were announced in the Gazette today:

Mr K. S. Kinghorn to be acting Director of Commerce and Industry during the absence of Mr H. A. Angus; Mr F. R. J. Lillywhite to be acting Airport Manager during the absence of Mr O. F. Hamilton; Miss Christina Lee to be Nursing Sister; Mr A. W. T. White to be acting Assistant Superintendent of Sanitary Services during the absence of Mr G. H. Sherriff; Mr A. P. Richardson to be a Special Magistrate and to hold a Small Debts Court in the New Territories (Land Office, Taipo and Land Office, Pingshan); and Mr A. E. Shave, ASP, to be an Honorary Aide-de-Camp.

It was also announced that Mr R. C. Lee has been appointed to be an Unofficial Member of the Legislative Council, during the absence from the Colony of the Hon. M. W. Lo. Mr Lee has ceased to be Chairman of the Public Services Commission consequent upon the resumption of duty of Mr J. R. Jones, and he also ceases to be a member of the Commission following his appointment to the Legislative Council.

Mr C. Y. Kwan has been appointed to act temporarily as a member of the Public Services Commission in the place of Mr Lee.

Mr G. T. Rowe has been appointed Commissioner of Essential Services, vice Mr V. F. Clarke.

Notification is also made of the appointment of Mr D. S. Hill to be an Assistant Secretary to the Urban Council.

The following have been appointed authorised inspectors for the purposes of the Emergency (Resettlement Areas) General Rules:—Messrs Li King-pan, Li Kwok-choi, So Chak-man, R. V. Chennaliey and Benny Lam.

Defence Force Appointments

The appointment of Pte G. M. Stevenson to the rank of Captain in the Hongkong Regiment was announced in the Gazette this morning.

It was also announced that Lieut (S) P.W.S. Cottier, HKRNVR, has been re-instated in rank, with effective seniority of December 1, 1952.

Formal recognition has been accorded by H.E. the Governor to Mr N. Kayahara as Consul for Japan at Hongkong, the Gazette announced this morning.

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APPLICATIONS REFUSED BY FULL COURT

Sequel To Tenancy Appeal Case

The Full Court (comprising Mr Justice C. W. Reece and Mr Justice J. R. Gregg) this morning refused two applications for leave to apply for orders of certiorari and mandamus against Mr Justice J. Wicks (former Judge of the Kowloon District Court).

The applications were made by Mr Brook A. Bernacchi, instructed by Mr G. S. Ford, of Messrs Ford, Kwan and Co., on behalf of Raymond Get Chang, landlord of 11 Tak Hing Terrace.

The first application sought an order of certiorari to remove into the Full Court and quash Mr Justice Wicks' decision of December 21, 1954, allowing a tenancy appeal and setting aside an order for possession of 11 Tak Hing Terrace made by Mr A. A. Huggins (Tenancy Tribunal President). An order of mandamus against Mr Justice Wicks to dismiss the appeal was also sought.

The grounds were that Mr Justice Wicks had no jurisdiction, because not all the parties to the Tenancy Tribunal application were before him and that he misdirected himself in considering that there was any issue before him as to the admitted occupancy of certain rooms on the ground floor of the premises by the second and third opponents to the Tenancy Tribunal application.

Mr Huggins granted an order for possession in favour of the landlord who through his attorney applied for the eviction of three occupants of the premises on the ground that the first of them had sublet to the other two without permission.

The first opponent appealed to the District Court and succeeded.

Mr Bernacchi claimed that the other two opponents were not made parties to the appeal and this was something unprecedented.

SECOND APPLICATION

The second application to the Full Court was for an order of certiorari to remove into that Court and quash a decision of Mr Justice Wicks, made on January 31 last, dismissing a summons by the applicant for a certificate that the Tenancy appeal involved a point of exceptional public importance—whether and to what extent Section 20(a) of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance applied to evidence of change of occupancy provided by the opponents' own case and, applied to the facts of the case, whether the Tribunal President was right in holding that there was evidence of a change of occupancy which the opponents had not satisfactorily explained. The application also sought an order of mandamus ordering the Trial Judge to hear and determine the matters raised on this summons for a certificate.

The grounds for this application were that Judge Wicks wrongly ruled that the matters in the summons did not arise under his appeal judgment; alternatively that Judge Wicks attempted to vary his judgment at the time of the hearing of the summons when he had already discharged his duties in that respect; generally, that Judge Wicks failed to hear and determine a summons on its merits because he misdirected himself on a point of law arising at the hearing of the application.

The facts of the case were that one Lam Man-kwai as the lawful attorney of the applicant (Chang) instituted proceedings in the Tenancy Tribunal against one Lee Sau-shan for eviction from three rooms of No. 1 Tak Hing Street, ground floor, on the ground that she had transferred, sub-let or parted with possession of the premises to Li Man-tip and Wong Yuk. The application was opposed by Lee Sau-shan, the principal tenant, and the other two tenants. The President of the Tenancy Tribunal made an order for possession and there was an appeal against this decision by Lee Sau-shan; the other two opponents did not appeal. The District Judge allowed the appeal.

Consequent upon the delivery of judgment allowing the appeal, the solicitors for the applicant applied to the Judge of the District Court for a certificate under Section 26(3)A of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance stating that in their opinion a point of law of such exceptional public importance arose from or as a consequence of his decision that the opinion of the Full Court should be obtained on such point.

The Full Court, in giving its decision, dealt at length with the legal arguments raised in the applications, and with the judgment of the District Judge.

CORRECT JUDGMENT

Continuing, Mr Justice Reece said:

"In my opinion the judgment of the District Court Judge was on the record before him a correct one. There was no evidence to support the finding of the President of the Tenancy Tribunal and the Judge of the District Court said so. With that decision I can see no error in law on the face of the record and that being so the application for leave to bring up and quash the judgment of the Judge of the District Court is refused.

"There only now remains to consider the motion for leave to apply for an order to require the District Court Judge to show cause why his refusal to grant a certificate that the appeal already considered involved a point of exceptional public importance should not be set aside.

"In this connection Counsel for the applicant contended that the Judge of the District Court declined to say whether the point of law set out in the Summons was or was not of exceptional public importance, because he misdirected himself by ruling in law that it did not arise on his appellate jurisdiction.

"In his decision on the Summons for a certificate the District Court Judge began by stating specifically that he was quite in agreement with the proposition put forward in the Summons. He said—'there is no doubt that evidence of sub-letting can be provided in the opponents case before the Tribunal in circumstances where there is no evidence in the applicant's case.' But the effect of his decision was that question never arose, for his judgment was based upon lack of evidence of sub-letting. He concluded by saying — 'In making my decision that there was no evidence of sub-letting I took into consideration all the evidence—that of the applicant and that of the opponent.'

"Whether or not the point in the Summons was of exceptional public importance is in reality quite beside the point.

"Paragraph (a) of Sub-section (9) of Section 26 of the Landlord and Tenant Ordinance provides: 'No appeal shall lie from any decision of fact, discretion or law made by the court unless the presiding judge certifies that in his opinion a point of law of such exceptional public importance arises from or as a consequence of his decision that the opinion of the Full Court should be obtained on such point.'

'NOT GENUINE'

"This states clearly that the point taken must arise from the decision objected to. Here the Judge has said that no such point did arise from his decision, which was that there was no evidence to support the decision of the President of the Tribunal. I have said that I agree with that decision and I am unable to see what point of law of such exceptional public importance arises from an elementary first principle of the law of evidence.

"In my opinion there is no substance in this application either.

"In refusing the applications I am constrained to say that I have rather got the impression that these are not genuine applications to correct errors of law by certiorari and mandamus, but rather attempts to get by means of a sidewind a judgment reviewed on appeal when there is no provision for appeal in the usual way.

"Writs of certiorari never did lie to enable a dissatisfied litigant to have a judgment of an inferior Court reviewed and quashed on appeal. Moreover, I want to express my disapproval at the manner in which the record was presented to the Court and to stress the importance of seeing that it is complete."

SIDE GLANCES By Galbraith

"Talk about the wonders of TV—that western was playing at the theatre in my home town when I was a kid!"

FARM ANIMALS LEARN ABOUT THE CRUEL SEA

They Prove To Be Good Sailors

Presents of pedigree livestock and fowls worth A$28,000, gifts of the Australian Government to Vietnam, arrived here this morning in the ss Nankin from Australia in transit to Saigon.

The consignment, comprising nine bulls, 45 heifers, five horses, 60 pigs and 460 Australorp chickens, is being sent to Vietnam under the Colombo Plan to help under-developed countries in South-east Asia.

In spite of the long journey and occasional rough weather all the animals and chickens were in good shape with the possible exception of one chicken "that may die," according to Mr Frank Kirkham who cared for them during the trip.

Of the original six horses one had to be destroyed after sustaining injuries in a violent storm a day out from Sydney, said Mr Kirkham, farmer and horse trainer who, for the last seven years, has been bringing Australian ponies to Hongkong for the Jockey Club.

Mr Kirkham boarded the Nankin in Brisbane after the storm.

THEIR FEED TOO

After a short quarantine in Hongkong the animals and chickens will be taken aboard the French steamer, Anadyr for Saigon next Monday.

More than 1,000 bales of Lucerne hay were brought along for the use of the cattle.

Mr A. C. Slater, Assistant Australian Trade Commissioner, accompanied by Mr V. D. P. McInnes, of the Immigration Section of the Trade Commissioner's Office, visited the Nankin on arrival.

Supervising the discharging of the animals from the Nankin was Mr R. T. Hilliar, an agent of William A. Jones Pty. Ltd., Australian livestock exporters through whom the Australian Government made their £28,000 order.

Radio Hongkong

H.K.T.

6, Time Signal and Programme Summary; 6.02, Children's Half Hour presented by Joan and Valerie (Studio); 6.30, Tip Top Tunes' presented by Jean—The Hits of March, chosen by listeners in their requests (Studio); 7, Set to your Partners; 7.30, Viewpoint a weekly magazine devoted to the Arts. Edited and introduced by Janet Tomblin (Studio); Books: Reviewed by Aileen Dekker, 'Father of Nobody's Children' by M. Wymer, Pub. Hutchinson @ 12/-, 7, Rock with the Kiu Khux Khan' by S. Kennedy, Pub. Arco @ 12/-; 7.59, Weather Report; 8, Time Signal World News (London Relay); 8.10, Election Talk by Candidate for the Urban Council—Mr Brook Bernacchi (Recorded); 8.30, approx. Love Scenes of Long Ago—A dramatic reading from the novel 'Jane Eyre' by Charlotte Bronte 'Jane Eyre and Mr Rochester (BBCTS); 9, Time Signal An Appeal by Mr J. H. Buttonjee, C.B.E., on behalf of the Hongkong Society for the Protection of Children (Recorded); 9.05, Music Lovers Hour—Classical Requests presented by Aileen Dekker (Studio) 10, 'Boulevard Cafe—'Song Hits of Paris'; 10.15, Letter from America by Alistair Cooke (London Relay); 10.30, Record Round-About; 10.45, Weather Report; 11, Time Signal Radio News Reel (London Relay); 11.15, Goodnight Music, God Save The Queen; 11.30, Close Down.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Sir,—We have been very intrigued by the "Target" word building competition which appears each evening in your paper; and have great fun competing to find the greatest number of words.

We would, however, be most interested to know from which dictionary the words are taken for the "Solution". Quite a number of these words we are unable to trace in our dictionaries—including "The Oxford Dictionary" and "Whittaker's".

Would it be possible for you to advise us which dictionary is being used in compiling these lists of words, as we frequently outnumber the given "target", while not including a number of the words given in your solutions.

Thank you for this additional brain-sharpener.

A MANCUNIAN.

["Targets" is a feature compiled in London. It is probable that the words are drawn from a number of dictionaries.—Ed, China Mail.]

Decree Nisi Granted

A decree nisi to be made absolute in three months was granted to Alberto Carlos d'Azevedo, by the acting Chief Justice, Mr Justice T. J. Gould, in the Divorce Court this morning.

An accountant, residing at 214, Sheung Yuen Liang, Diamond Hill, d'Azevedo petitioned for a dissolution of his marriage to Olga Therese d'Azevedo on the grounds of adultery in Australia. Guy Laurent-Hilgon was named co-respondent.

Mr Richard Winter, instructed by Mr P. H. Sin, represented the petitioner. The suit was not contested.

Lady Grantham At Bland Exhibition

Lady Grantham this morning attended the exhibition by Mr Douglas Bland, Hongkong artist, at British Council Library, Gloucester Hotel.

Received by Mr Bland and Mr E. A. Innes Chairman of the British Council, Lady Grantham was shown about 40 pictures and paintings and remained at the exhibition for about half an hour.

11 Injured When School Building Collapses

Singapore, Mar. 24.

Two teachers and nine boys were injured when the Malay religious school at Parit Jawa, about 10 miles from Muar in Johore, collapsed during a heavy rainstorm today.

All were admitted to the Muar district hospital where one of the boys is reported to be critically ill.

The casualties would have been greater if one of the teachers had not ordered the boys to shelter under their desks.

About 160 boys were having their lessons at the time. The school building crashed after being hit by a whirlwind. It was a total wreck, with debris scattered all around as though a bomb had made a direct hit.

The school is the third to be destroyed by whirlwind during the last six years. The other incidents were at Gersik and Parit Slongkat.

ONE KILLED

In Kuala Lumpur, five temporary wards of the Tai Wah Hospital, built during the Japanese occupation of Malaya, were blown down by a storm yesterday, killing one, and seriously injuring six others. One is in a critical condition. They are in the General Hospital. The 23 people with minor injuries were not detained.

Of the five wards blown down, three were occupied by 123 people and the other two were unoccupied.

The police, civil defence department and social welfare department personnel have all shared in the task of helping injured people and carrying out rescue work.

All the inmates have been rehoused.—China Mail Special.

Mail Notices

The latest times of posting shown below are those for unregistered correspondence posted at G.P.O. Hongkong. The latest posting times elsewhere, which, in general, are earlier than the G.P.O. times can be ascertained by enquiry at the local office.

The latest posting times for registered articles are generally one hour earlier than the times shown below. Particulars regarding parcel mails can be ascertained by enquiry at any post office.

FRIDAY, MARCH 25
By Air
Japan, U.S.A., Canada, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 6 p.m.

SATURDAY, MARCH 26
By Air
Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand & Ceylon, 8 a.m.
Thailand, Burma, India, Pakistan, Middle East, Africa, Great Britain & Europe, 10 a.m.
Philippines, 11 a.m.
Formosa, Canada, 5 p.m.
Okinawa, Korea, 6 p.m.
Japan, U.S.A., 6 p.m.
By Surface
N. Borneo, 9 a.m.
China, People's Republic, 10.30 a.m.
Formosa, 11 a.m.
Thailand, 1 p.m.
Philippines, 1 p.m.
Macao, 1.30 p.m.
Indonesia, 2 p.m.
Korea, 2 p.m.
Ceylon, India, Pakistan, Aden, Middle East, Italy, 5 p.m.
Malaya, Burma, India, 5 p.m.
China, People's Republic, 6 p.m.
Macao, 8 p.m.

SUNDAY, MARCH 27
By Air
Philippines, Guam, Hawaii, USA., 2 p.m.
Indo-China, France, 3 p.m.
Philippines, N. Borneo, 5 p.m.
Indo-China, Malaya, Indonesia, Australia, New Zealand, 6 p.m.
By Surface
Macao, 2 p.m.

Pirates Chase USN Ship

The United States Information Service confirmed today that two armed pirate junks with a speed of approximately 18 knots chased a US Navy repair ship the LST League Island last Saturday night and were overhauling her when radio distress signals brought a Navy Tanker on to the scene and the ocean going junks made off.

The LST (tank landing craft) was carrying a valuable load of electrical and radar supplies when the junks were sighted after dark. They immediately switched off all lights and gave chase.

The League Island made off at top speed and tried to shake off the faster ocean going junks by dazzling their crews with searchlights.

US Navy sources say the junks were not of a type known to be used by Chinese Communists, and there was no question but that they were ordinary pirates.

Sir Winston Keeps MPs Guessing

London, Mar. 24.

Sir Winston Churchill, the Prime Minister, amused Members in the House of Commons today when Mr Richard Stokes (Labour) tried to draw him into saying something about his reported immediate retirement.

Mr Stokes complaining of Government delay in making a decision about accommodation in the House of Parliament, asked how much longer they were to wait "before we can have an assurance we shall have a decision before he himself retires as Prime Minister."

Sir Winston Churchill's reply was "I should not like to speculate on the competition of these unknown events."

Sir Winston Churchill gave such hard-hitting replies during question-time that one Labour Member, Mr Arthur Woodburn asked: "where the Conservatives got the idea that the Prime Minister was too old to do the job after today's performance."

The comment brought a round of laughter and cheers and a smile from Sir Winston. — Reuter.

Visit Still On

London, Mar. 24.

Sir Anthony Eden will go ahead with his plan to visit Turkey this year even if he succeeds Sir Winston Churchill as Prime Minister in the meantime, diplomatic sources said here today.

The chief change might be that he would be accompanied by whoever he appointed to succeed him as Foreign Secretary, the sources added.

The visit will return that paid here in October 1952 by the Turkish Prime Minister, Mr Adnan Menderes, and his Foreign Minister, Professor Fuad Koprulu.

Sir Anthony Eden was prevented by influenza from flying to Ankara last week.—Reuter.

SPRUANCE TO RETIRE

Manila, March. 25.

The United States Ambassador to the Philippines, Admiral Raymond Spruance, will leave his diplomatic post here on April 1 and return to the United States on retirement, it was learned yesterday at the Foreign Office.

The 68-year-old envoy, a full admiral who served for 40 years in the U.S. Navy is going on retirement after three years of diplomatic duty in the Philippines.—France-Presse.

28 Terrorists Surrender

Kuala Lumpur, Mar. 24.

For the first time since the emergency began here in 1948, the number of terrorists who surrendered last month exceeded the number killed.

The figures for the month of January showed 28 surrenders and 27 kills.

A government spokesman said the surrender rate had increased dramatically of late months, after reaching an all-time low in July last year, during the Vietminh gains at the Geneva Conference.—France-Presse.

New Shipping Claims Tribunal

The Government Gazette this morning announced the appointment of the following to be Members of a Shipping Claims Tribunal to determine disputes as to the payment of compensation under the Compensation (Defence) Regulations in respect of the requisition of vessels:—The Hon. Mr Justice J. Wicks, President, the Hon. Leo d'Almada, QC, and Mr A. W. Black.